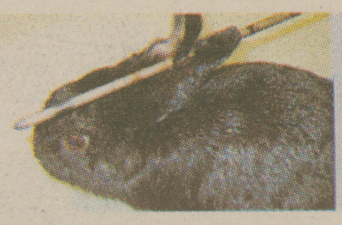
The Nutcracker

page ten



Shot bunny

page three

Unionizing for 57 years.

MARTLET

Thursday, November 25, 2004 | The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper | www.martlet.ca | Volume 57, Issue 15

B. BRADY PHOTOS | DH ILLUSTRATION

Starbucks eats unions for brunch

"Starbucks is trying to break the union, and we aren't going to let them."

pages eight and nine

B. BRADY PHOTO

Giant Bird

A giant bird was seen roaming the streets of Vancouver this week near the set of *The Fantastic Four*.

UBC buys 18-hole golf course despite First Nation's challenge

by Jonathan Woodward, CUP British Columbia Bureau Chief

VANCOUVER (CUP) — The University of British Columbia has become the first university in Canada to own a golf course, but a local First Nation, which says the sale hampers their treaty process, is challenging the purchase.

The 18-hole, par-72 University Golf Club was sold for $11 million by the provincial government in May.

"It made sense for the university to own it, as opposed to anyone else," said Don Matheson of UBC Properties Trust, the university's corporate subsidiary that handles property transactions.

University Golf Club sits on either side of University Boulevard, the 1.5-kilometre road between UBC and Vancouver. It has been a public golf course since 1929, and a covenant on the property prohibits subdivision and ensures the public golf course will persist.

UBC lawyer Hubert Lai said the purchase is a good investment, which will generate revenue and fit UBC's plan for a University Town.

"We want to make sure it remains available to the community, it's not turned into a private golf course, or condos, or something else like that," Lai said. "But the main driver here is that it's a good investment, and it makes sense to diversify our portfolio."

The money for the land came from the university's $700 million endowment fund, which it invests to raise money for other ventures. The golf course will bring in about $500,000 in rent per year.

It's not unheard of for universities to make money through investments, Lai said, noting the University of Victoria uses downtown office buildings to bolster its endowment.

"The university sees this as a potential revenue stream," said David Robinson, associate executive director of the Canadian Union of University Teachers. "UBC has a president who is dramatically trying to diversify revenue sources, particularly in the light of shrinking government funding. Whether it's appropriate is open for public debate."

Opposing the sale is the Musqueam Band, which says the sale violates the treaty process between them and the province, because it provided only "rubber stamp" consultation while selling lands over which they assert Aboriginal title.

Unlike other provinces, B.C. never settled with First Nations, and most of their claims to land remain unrecognized.

The Musqueam have challenged the sale in B.C.'s highest court.

The band wants to use the golf course to provide jobs for their 1,100 members—and that means sending Musqueam people to work on the course and building houses along the road past UBC's gates.

"Our unemployment rate is very high," said Delbert Guerin, a 66-year-old Musqueam elder. "We need to do these things to get our people into the working world."

The band is appealing a previous decision by a lower court that dismissed their case. The ruling on the sale is expected before the end of the year.

But very little else will change on the 146-acre, 6,100-yard golf course, which because of its name and proximity to the university, many students thought was owned by UBC anyway. The varsity golf team will continue to practise at Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club for another 20 to 30 years, said coach Chris MacDonald.

"The only thing that's changed is the address on the rent cheques," said Scott Cranston, an employee of UGCC Holdings, the company that will continue to operate the golf course until its lease expires in 2015.

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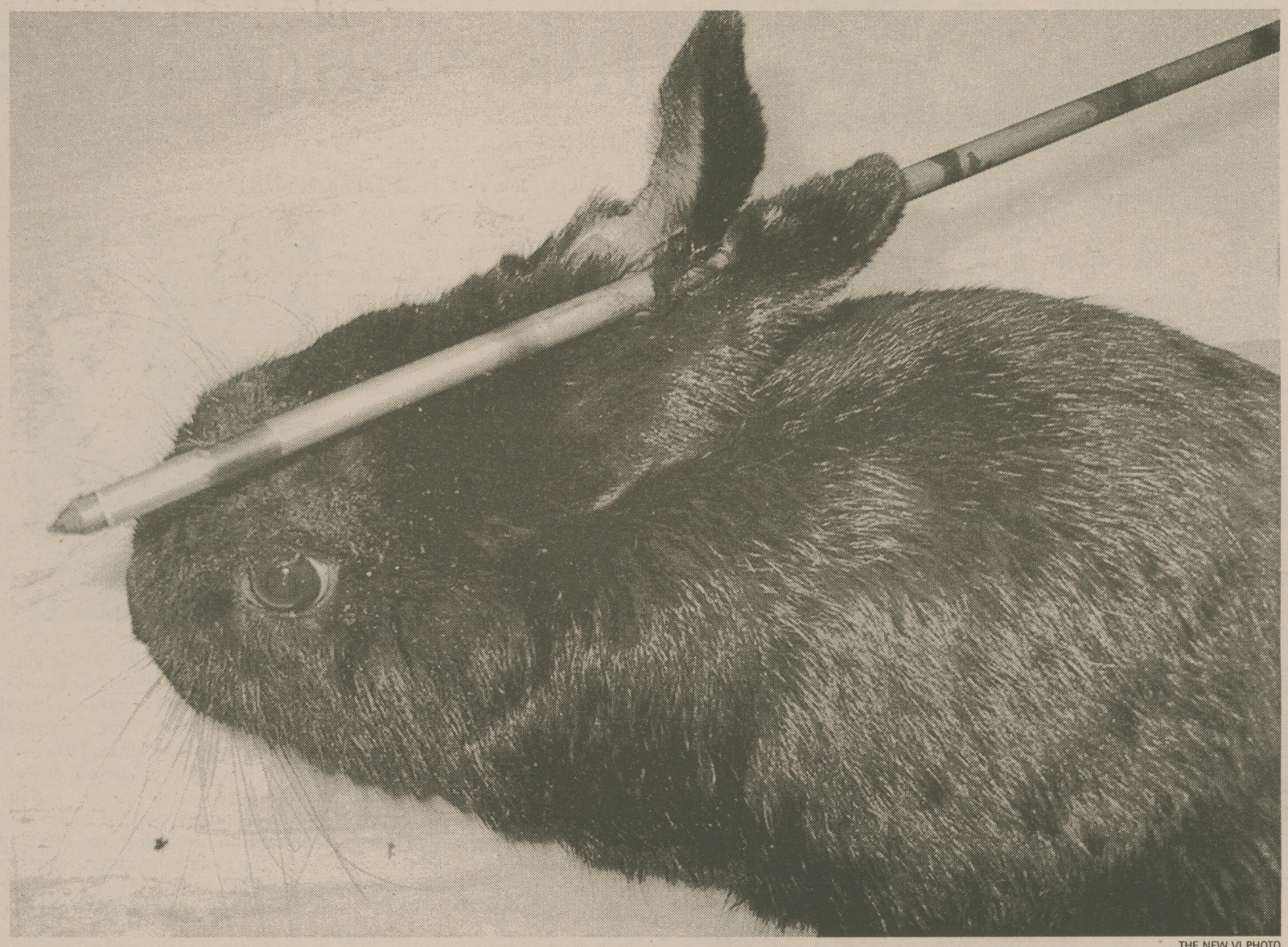
Cruelty against bunnies rears its ugly head again

by Bryna Hallam



THE NEW VI PHOTO

This injured bunny, found at UVic last weekend, is recovering after treatment at an Elk Lake veterinary clinic.

Saanich Police are investigating after a young rabbit was found at UVic last weekend with an arrow through both of its ears.

Police believe the rabbit was either shot or held down while someone pierced its ears with the arrow.

Christina Barnes, an adoption counsellor at the SPCA, told *the Times Colonist* that she thinks the animal was shot. "Rabbits, when they are sitting, keep their ears straight up," she said. If someone had tried to hold it down and pierce its ears, it would have struggled, resulting in more tissue damage."

"The rabbit is doing well," said Saanich Police Constable John Price, "and recovering from its unfortunate run-in with a member of community."

The rabbit, which weighs just over two kilograms and is believed to be a year old, was treated at an Elk Lake veterinary clinic the evening of Friday, Nov. 19, and was recovering at a Shawinigan Lake foster home the following Monday.

Although the shooting occurred on campus, Executive Director of Student Services David Clode said there is no indication that a student was involved.

"UVic is not a gated community," said Clode. "People can wander onto the campus from any place and at any time."

The rabbit has been calm around people, and its gentle nature suggests that it was a pet abandoned on campus.

Price expects the SPCA Act, rather than the Criminal Code, will be used if a charge of cruelty against animals is laid. Charges of cruelty against animals are usually only laid in cases involving mistreatment or abuse of domesticated animals.

In addition to the injuries sustained by the rabbit, police are also concerned about someone using what they consider to be a dangerous weapon in public.

Clode agrees. "That's what's most disturbing about this incident—that someone's firing arrows around campus."

The arrow is between 63 and 67 centimetres long, with a metal shaft and tip, and is most likely the kind used by competitive archers for practice.

An employee at a local sporting store—who asked not to be named—said that based on photos, he believes it was not a hunting tip on the arrow. In hunting, blades called broadheads are attached to the shaft, causing more damage on impact and making the arrow difficult to remove.

Buying a bow doesn't require a license, but hunting with one does. The employee pointed out that the shooting at UVic was "a pretty isolated incident" and that bows are not inherently dangerous.

"A crime could be committed with anything," he said.

Saanich Police are indeed treating it as an isolated incident. Earlier reports of a deer shot with an arrow are thought to be unfounded. According to Price, there is a buck with a rope and wooden stake tangled in its antlers in the area. Despite the rope, the buck appears to be in good shape and able to forage for food.

SPCA Assistant Manager Penny Stone refused to comment to *the Martlet*, only saying that the SPCA blames the paper for perpetuating violence against rabbits on campus. The SPCA's complaint centres on an article published in June, which reported on students who captured and ate campus rabbits.

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Naomi Klein takes aim at Iraq war

Author accuses U.S. of withholding democracy, civilian casualty figures

by Jonathan Ore, *the Strand*

TORONTO (CUP) — Naomi Klein drew a crowd when she spoke about the war in Iraq during Peace Week at the University of Toronto earlier in the month.

Students and others filled a room to listen to the *No Logo* author take aim at the war and occupation in Iraq, as well as recent events in the country centred on Fallujah.

"I really feel that the coverage we're getting is tremendously lacking," Klein said.

She visited Iraq earlier in the year, and relayed stories and events both thought-provoking and controversial.

While United States officials say al-Qaida's Abu Musab al-Zarqawi may have used Fallujah as a base, Klein said his presence in the city is strongly suspect.

Figures of Iraqi deaths are sorely absent from news reports, she said, adding the occupation of a hospital in the city under siege was an example of why. The hospital, Klein explained, was called a "centre of propaganda" used to spread rumours of civilian casualties. Hospitals were sources of such figures for journalists.

PROVIDED PHOTO

The author of *No Logo* drew a crowd during Peace Week at the Univeristy of Toronto.

"They handcuffed all the patients and hospital workers . . . so these 'rumours' would not spread once again."

While newspapers report it is impossible to ascertain the number of civilian casualties, Klein charged the numbers are being forcefully withheld from the public.

The road to a true, free Iraq is a hard one, as perceived by Klein.

"Peace is not merely the absence of war—it is the presence of justice."

Her accounts suggested justice is difficult to find in Iraq, even when it is not engulfed in vicious explosions and dangerous city fighting.

"The best way to feed a war . . . is to starve that human desire for justice, freedom and democracy."

The Iraqi people are ready for democracy, she said, but it is being withheld from them for suspect reasons.

While her message was grim, Klein applauded the countries that have withdrawn from the "coalition of the willing."

If the United States is forced to pursue this war alone, she reasoned, then its vast military commitments will strain the country. Conscription could become a subject of concern.

Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chrétien "made a very important and courageous decision to keep Canada out of the war in Iraq, in an overt way," she said.

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NEWS BRIEFS

What about the doughnuts?

A motion to ban trans fats from food sold in Canada is on its way to becoming law.

The motion, introduced by NDP leader Jack Layton, was passed on Nov. 23.

The bill is seeking an initial limit on allowable levels of trans fat at five grams per 100 grams of oil. The limit will later be lowered to two grams.

Hydrogenated, or trans fats, form mainly when liquid oil is subjected to hydrogen and changed from a liquid into a solid fat. The process is used to make margarine or shortening from vegetable oil.

Their ability to remain stable at room temperature means long shelf lives when trans fats are used in processed foods.

Research has shown that trans fat intake contributes to an increased risk of cardiovascular disease and premature diabetes. According to University of Guelph professor Bruce Holub, Canadians are now eating about 8.5 grams of trans per person per day.

Denmark is the only country to place limits on trans fat, with a goal of reducing trans fats to no more than two per cent of food content.

—Bryna Hallam

Food bank benefits from parking tickets

Is UVic threatening to hold back your grades until you pay off your parking tickets? Now's your chance to settle up—and knock $5 off the ticket as well.

Campus security services is offering an incentive for settling unpaid UVic parking tickets before the end of the year.

Anyone bringing an outstanding $20 UVic parking ticket to campus security services' office will have the fine reduced by $5, but only if the ticket is accompanied by a can of food for the local food bank.

Campus security services donated three boxes of canned goods to the food bank last year as a result of their parking ticket discount offer.

—Bryna Hallam

CIBC grant to student services

CIBC has made a donation of $500,000 to UVic Career Services, earning the bank its name on a new library built to help graduating students find a career.

The career centre was formed to help grads make the transition from school into the workforce. The grant will be dispersed over the next five years, and be used to fund a career resources library, part of the Applied Career Transition program.

"Thanks to CIBC's gift, our library will get our students pointed in the right direction and into some interview seats," said Jennifer Margison, manager of career services.

CIBC's director of commercial banking, John Webber, says that the donation is part of their commitment to ensuring Canada's future prosperity.

"Through this investment in UVic's Career Services program and resources," he said, "we hope to help students overcome some of the barriers they face when trying to enter today's workforce."

In a naming ceremony Nov. 17, university president David Turpin met with regional CIBC representatives to make the grant official.

Turpin himself is delighted about the prospect. "This [will help] bring about core changes in how we prepare our students to find their place in society," he said.

"It's a critical piece of the educational process."

—Ford Walker

Great protection, bad marketing

by Amanda Leier

"A polyurethane sheath in the shape of a round, upside-down baggie inserted into the vagina before sex," is how the Sexuality and U website describes the female condom. What the site doesn't mention is the fact that the female condom is also the best protection against a range of sexually transmitted infections (STI).

While the female condom has great potential, sexual health experts say it needs to be better promoted through sexual health education in all areas: the classroom, clinic, pharmacy, Internet and printable resources.

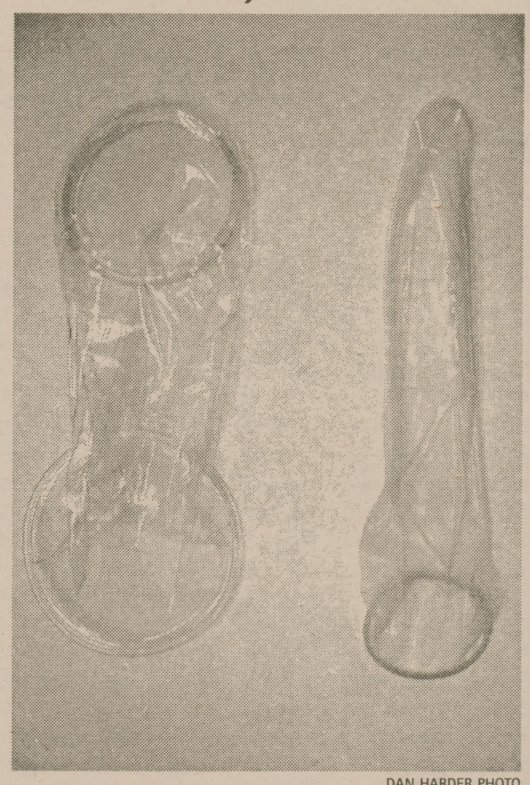
Instead of covering the penis, the female condom lines the walls of the vagina. There is a small ring at the closed end of the condom that works like a diaphragm and fits around the cervix to hold the condom in place. A larger ring at the open end of the condom sits outside of the vagina and covers more of the genitals than a male condom. It protects against STI, HIV/AIDS, and pregnancy. A package of three costs between $10 and $15.

Unlike its male counterpart, which is traditionally made of latex, the female condom is made of polyurethane. This gives it numerous benefits, according to the website run by The Female Health Company, the company that manufactures female condoms. Polyurethane heats up to your body's temperature, is non-allergenic, is stronger than latex so it doesn't break as often as other condoms, and doesn't require special storage conditions because it doesn't break down in heat and humidity. It can be used with both water-based and oil-based lubricants. It can be inserted up to eight hours before intercourse and doesn't have to be removed directly after ejaculation.

The female and male condoms are the only forms of protection against STI transmission.

According to reports from the 1998 Canadian Consensus Conference on Contraception, because the female condom provides more coverage, it can theoretically cover genital warts or herpes lesions and prevent transmission. The Health Canada website notes under its sections on genital warts and herpes that condom use is important to prevent infection, but that areas not covered by a condom are not protected.

"I tell males who have warts or herpes at the base of their penis and females who have these STDs in their labia [about the female condom] because [male] condoms don't protect us from these things," said Doug McGhee, a doctor at the Victoria Youth Clinic in James Bay and at the STI clinic.



DAN HARDER PHOTO

The female condom is poorly promoted compared to its male counterpart.

Doctors don't have to report cases of herpes and genital warts, as they do when treating new cases of STIs such as gonorrhea and chlamydia. For this reason, warts and herpes statistics are difficult to find. According to the Herpes Health website, which was developed by Canadian doctors who specialize in treating herpes, one in five North Americans has genital herpes.

The Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center's Sexual Health Program explains on its guide to sexual health and sexually transmitted diseases website that there are 100 types of the human papilloma virus (HPV), a few of which cause genital warts. The site said that HPV is extremely common and is present in 90 per cent of the global population, while 15 per cent of the global population actually has genital warts.

McGhee explains that HPV is the most common STI, but most people have no visible signs or symptoms of it. He said that genital warts are common and that he treats them daily.

"The use of the female condom is very low, but as you can tell it probably has something to do with how it's promoted," said Sonya Chandler, a Nurse at the Victoria Youth Clinic in James Bay. "When I taught high school sex ed, I was probably a lot less enthusiastic about the female condom than other methods."

According to a 1998 Canadian Contraception Study (CCS), 25 per cent of respondents were familiar with the female condom. However, only nine per cent of those 25 per cent reported having a "very favourable" opinion of it. None of the sexually active respondents reported using it as STI protection or contraception.

These numbers are very low compared to the 91 per cent of respondents to the CCS who were familiar with the male condom. Among those 91 per cent, 37 per cent had a "very favourable" opinion and 38 per cent had a "favourable" opinion of the male condom. Only six per cent reported a "very unfavourable" opinion.

Donna Denman, head nurse at the UVic Health Centre, said that female condoms are not a form of protection commonly discussed or offered to patients. "[Male] condoms are discussed because it's more likely that people will use them," she said.

"The marketing for the female condom is terrible," said McGhee.

Laura Beattie, pharmacy manager at the Peoples Pharmacy on campus, said the pharmacy doesn't carry female condoms at all because nobody buys them. The Shoppers Drug Mart on Douglas Street places them on the bottom shelf of the birth control section, while condoms take up the top third of the section.

Literature on the female condom also hinders its promotion: noisy, ugly, and expensive are descriptors frequently used in pamphlets and websites containing sexual health information. The Avert website notes that because the female condom sits outside of the vagina, it may make some women self-conscious. The site also notes that it moves around during intercourse and makes noise. However, it suggests using more lubricant to decrease the noise. The site notes that although awkward at first, after a few uses of the female condom women feel more comfortable with it.

"Remove the biases, that's what's needed to be done. It's the education piece that's missing," said Chandler.

Martlet staff paper critique

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Sockeye will be 'managed into extinction'

Government and environmental groups clash

by Andrew Cienski

Conservationists, the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), and those dependant on the Fraser River fishery anticipate the results of a review of two endangered sockeye species this week.

Last month Environment Minister Stéphane Dion opted to not list the Cultus Lake and Sakinaw sockeye under the Species at Risk Act (SARA). This was despite an assessment by experts that found the number of sockeye returning to spawning grounds to be the lowest in 60 years.

"These two species are the canaries in the mine," said Vicky Husband, conservation chair for Sierra Club, an international environmental group. She added there are options available to the industry that have not been explored, including alternatives in the way fish stocks are being managed that could save them from extinction and avoid high losses to the industry.

A DFO recovery team projected that listing these two species under the SARA could result in $125 million in lost revenue for the sockeye fishing industry over the next four years. Because of fishermen's inability to distinguish the endangered fish from other species "the Fraser River sockeye fishery would have to be virtually shut down if these two populations were listed under SARA," said Geoff Regan, the minister of fisheries and oceans.

Dion made his decision after consultation with Regan and dropped the fish from the list of 76 animal species he did add to the act's protection.

One of the demands of SARA is that any listed species incurs zero mortality. Regan also pointed out this would affect First Nations that depend on the fish for food.

But vital information may have been left out in the compiling of the DFO's report.

Internal DFO documents have found their way to the Sierra Club and show not everyone in the department is satisfied with the research process. Dissenting voices say only short-term economics were looked at and no long-term analyses were conducted. They also point out that no alternative management plans were considered. "The report was flawed," Husband said. "Important financial reports were withheld."

Last month Doug Kelly, Soowahlie chief and a former member of the DFO team, accused Dion of making a "conscious move" to eradicate the sockeye.

The Sierra Club questions the DFO's findings and the accuracy of the $125 million price tag on conservation and recovery, and wants a second, independent analysis of the economic impact of conservation to be conducted. Husband adds the DFO's report failed to look into any possible solutions that might address the way the fish are being managed, such as in river fisheries, or concentrating fishing more in the Juan de Fuca strait.

In May of 2003 the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada found the population of these species had "collapsed primarily due to overexploitation . . . at levels beyond what can be sustained," adding "because very few fish remain, the population is at high risk of extinction from even minor impacts from fishing, poaching, impediments to spawning migration (such as water levels too low to allow spawning fish into their lakes), predation, habitat degradation and water usage."

Anticipating the fish might be listed under SARA, the DFO launched a million-dollar recovery program in January 2004. They selected individuals related to various aspects of the fishery—including biologists, fishermen and First Nations consultants—and formed a recovery team. "The technical expertise and local and traditional knowledge needed to develop science-based recovery strategies," said Regan.

"We have powerful tools in place to protect these species such as the Fisheries Act and our fisheries management plans," Regan continued. "We will continue to aggressively pursue our action plan to protect and rebuild Cultus and Sakinaw Lake sockeye populations."

The result was a plan that includes a captive breeding project, predator removal, milfoil (an invasive aquatic weed) removal, smolt assessment, acoustic tagging and habitat assessment.

Considering the main reasons for the low escapement count were suspected to be water levels too low to let the fish into their source lakes and changing migratory patterns potentially triggered by global warming, Husband fears relocating sea lions and removing milfoil are beside the point. "If that's the kind of management we're going to see [by the DFO]," she said, "we'll manage [the Cultus lake and Sakinaw sockeye] into extinction."

NIC HUME PHOTO

Work Less Party organizers, hoping to bring a three-day weekend to the province, prepare to lobby Liberal MLAs.

Party urges politicians to work less

by Megan Stewart

Fellow British Columbians, the Work Less Party says it's time that we—and especially the province's politicians—put up our feet and take a three-day weekend.

"We're asking Gordon Campbell to please take a long, long vacation until May 17," said Conrad Schmidt, "until which time, hopefully, [the electorate] will be replacing him."

Claiming the provincial Liberals "do bad work," Schmidt, the party's chief rabble-rouser, protested at the legislature on Nov. 19 and passed a revised, three-day-weekend calendar to every Liberal MLA. Showing the calendar's slogan, "Alarm clocks kill dreams," Schmidt and two other lobbyists talked to a New VI camera before leaving calendars and a stack of information for each of the 73 Liberals.

In May, the province will head to the polls to elect new representation. On the scene for a year and a half, the nascent Work Less Party will slate 10 candidates in ridings throughout the Lower Mainland.

With less than one seventh of B.C.'s ridings represented and little presence outside of Vancouver, Schmidt admits the party has a way to go before forming a government.

"We're optimistic and we won't wait to be elected to implement our changes."

The party advocates a shorter workweek that would be modelled after European standards. Raising awareness about a 32-hour work week, Schmidt, who holds a commerce degree and previously worked six days a week as a computer programmer, says Canadian standards of living would improve if the workweek was reduced and vacation time increased to eight weeks a year.

To encourage the workers of the world to relax and take a break, the Work Less Party organizes regular events designed to poke fun at consumerism, cubicle work and the rush to feed the capitalist system. And, always in the name of fun, the plan is to simply have a good time.

A few weeks ago, the group staged a stunt designed to slow rush-hour traffic in downtown Vancouver. Dressed as white-collar rats—complete with jackets, ties, snouts, whiskers and tails—34 participants raced through an obstacle course that began with "birth" and ended with "retirement."

"It's a little bit of a mockery, a satire," said Schmidt. "Everyone had a good time in the pouring rain."

An introduction to the party on its website, WorkLessParty.org, reads that as a society, they "are proudly working and sacrificing endless hours of [their] own personal well being to make things that are having detrimental impact on the planet."

Reducing the workweek by several hours, it continues, would save time "for music, family, art, education, community, friends, adventure, sharing and sanity."

The Work Less Party is eager to start a chapter in Victoria, but in the meantime, the three-day-weekend calendars, which feature naked people (Schmidt poses nude for January) sunning themselves, riding bikes and covered in body paint, are available at Munro's Books.

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Volume - Vancouver
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John Morgan
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with Yoseff
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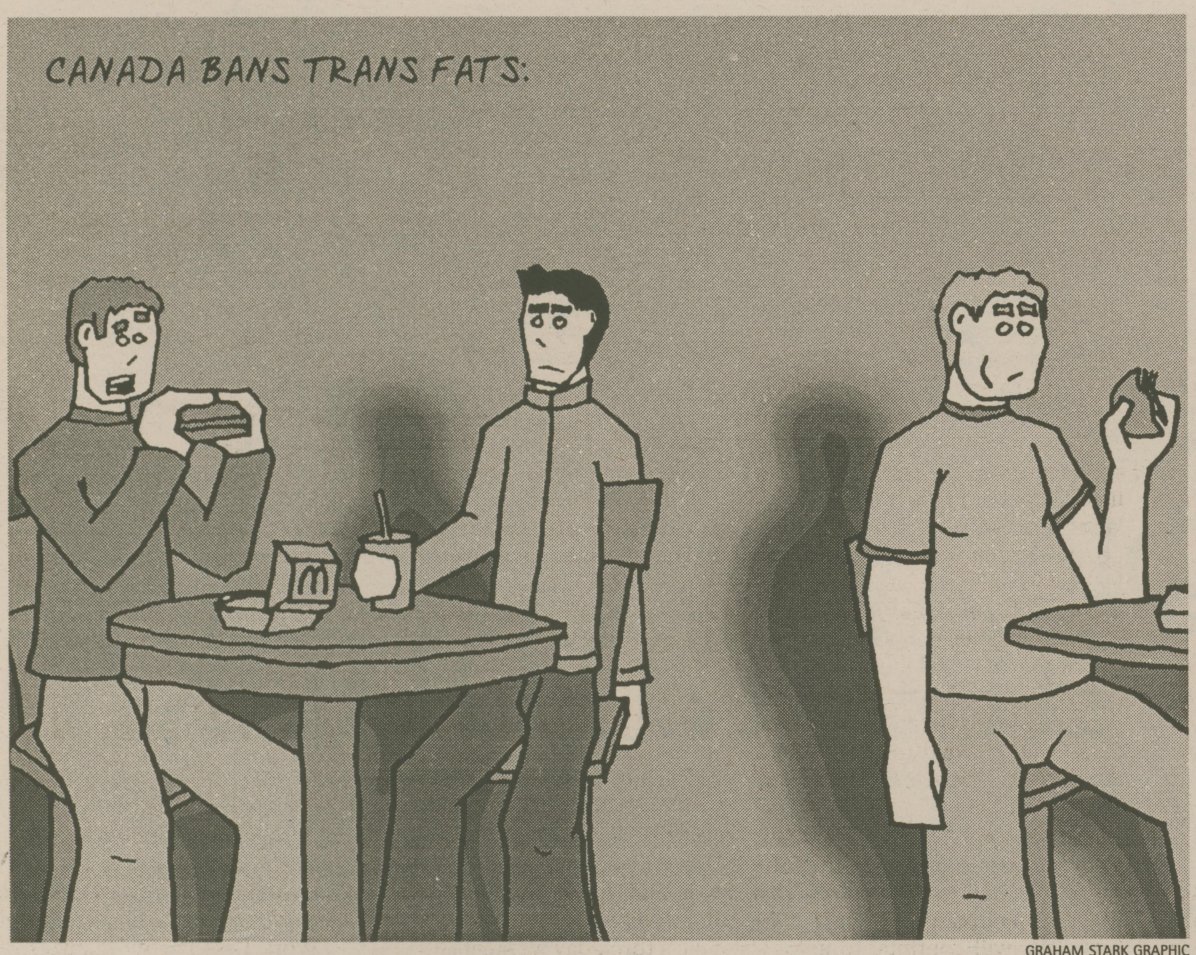

GRAHAM STARK GRAPHIC

"I know it's better for me, but this 'trans fat substitute' burger is missing something. I think it's the clogging. I kind of miss the clogging."

Editorial

Don't blame us for attacks on rabbits

In June, *the Martlet* published a story about an ethno-biology graduate student and his friends who were capturing rabbits on campus, humanely killing them, and then eating them. Who knew that we would still be defending it five months later?

This past weekend, Campus Security found a rabbit that had been shot through the ears with an arrow. We at *the Martlet* absolutely love the UVic bunnies, and were horrified to hear that the animal had been shot and left to suffer. It was an appalling act of callous violence.

And according to the Victoria SPCA we are, in part, to blame for the incident. On Monday morning, they told this to the New VI, who came to *the Martlet* to interview the paper's editor-in-chief.

The story led the five o'clock newscast, and in an attempt to sensationalize our stories, the New VI cut key information from its television report. After a description of what happened over the weekend, the anchor said (with appropriate dramatic intonation), "In September, UVic student Nicholas Campbell, who beat a bunny to death, was given an absolute discharge. Still, the attack led to widespread media coverage, including this edition of *the Martlet* newspaper."

Our June edition then flashed on screen, and immediately the report moved to a discussion of students who had written letters to complain about the article and the accompanying photos.

The June article had absolutely nothing to do with Campbell's vicious attack—in which he punched a rabbit until it was shrieking—and the average viewer was left with the impression that the June story was published in September. The New VI piece also implied we thought it would be funny to publish the "bunny-eating" article after Campbell was let off the hook.

Though the issues may be similar, there is no direct correlation between Campbell and the students who were catching rabbits for food.

When Campbell was given his absolute discharge (in part because he wishes to become a lawyer), we printed a harsh news story that quoted members of the Student Animal Legal Defence Fund and BC SPCA. The story was picked up by a national student press wire, and ran in newspapers across the country, from Vancouver to Fredericton.

Our role is to report on issues of concern to students and the university community—the "bunny-eating" story did just that, as did the September story about Campbell.

The Victoria SPCA flat out refused to comment for our news story this week about the rabbit that was found with an arrow through its ears. Assistant manager Penny Stone told *the Martlet* that the June story perpetuated violence against rabbits on campus, adding, "I have a problem talking to you." She said the story and accompanying photos were "horrendous."

By refusing to comment, the Victoria SPCA's message will not reach students. Is that really what the organization wants?

The fact is, reporting on something does not mean we condone or encourage it. If people are upset that nothing is being done about the killing of rabbits for food, their anger should be directed toward the university and the students involved, not us. There's no way the university is in the dark about the practice, especially given the full-page story that included the students' names.

The June story certainly didn't promote the killing and eating of rabbits and *the Martlet* doesn't support the practice. It's a tired saying, but please, don't shoot the messenger.

Editorial topics are decided at weekly editorial meetings and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of all staff members.

Don't like what you read? Write us, or write for us.
edit@martlet.ca

LETTERS

Thumbs-up for pro-choice article

I just wanted to say that Danielle Edwards' article was excellent ("UVic needs pro-choice education," Nov. 4). I fully agree—women should not be bullied by the U.S. right-wing hegemonic politics' policing control of women's bodies, nor should women be guilt-tripped by elite, male Canadian students wanting to limit women's choice under their feminist "moralistic" and women-hating rubric.

What's next? Let's get rid of condoms and birth control too, and how about sex education, as is what's happening in the valueless United States? Women need personal rights under oppression, and this is not up for debate.

Kirsten Salem

A free-thinking male speaks out

In response to Heather Cleland's article ("Maxim/Coors contest was 'laughable,'" Nov. 18), I would like to note that your article was as offensive to me as this contest was to you.

"As much as guys continuously prove themselves to be shallow morons"—are you kidding me? How on earth can your criticisms be taken seriously when you treat the majority of males as shallow morons? I'd like to think of myself as a free- thinking male, and I'd go as far as to say that free thought is not "rare in males."

I can only imagine the outcry from UVic's righteous moral community had the situation been reversed. Imagine that, women at a male beauty contest! Would it be acceptable for a man to label most women as shallow and incapable of free thought? I think not.

Aside from their physical beauty, I'm sure each of those contestants had beliefs and reasons for entering that contest. Before you start treating them as thoughtless lemmings or pieces of meat, perhaps you should consider their choice to be in the contest.

Please step down from your moral "high ground" and allow people to enjoy what they find to be beautiful.

Michael Gismondi

Just meat? No way

Of all the topics raised in *the Martlet* I have felt strongly about, I am somewhat embarrassed to admit this is the one I feel I have to respond to, in part because I am fairly sure no other champion will step forward in support of such a mundane cause.

In his letter published last week, Jonathan Hughes writes: "Vegetarianism, like carnivorism, is a personal choice that every human being should be entitled to make for themselves . . ."

While I thoroughly agree with Mr. Hughes' sentiment, I feel obliged to point out that neither Mr. Hughes, nor any other human being, is capable of practising "carnivorism." A carnivore is an animal that eats meat and nothing else, a diet which could not keep a human being alive for very long. People who are not vegetarians practise an omnivorous diet because they eat both meat and vegetation.

While Mr. Hughes is free to say what he will about matters regarding the vegetarian minority, I would ask that in future he be more careful not to offend those of us with delicate grammatical sensibilities.

Robin Smith

There's no "I" in "Martlet"

I was pissed off by Nov. 4's "Festival raises funds for Cuba." As a former Arts editor, I know that it was firm Martlet policy not to print arts announcements. We could "preview" events, preferably interviewing someone. We turned down tonnes of good causes and creative talents who wanted listings in our paper in favour of an ironclad "free stories, not free ads" rule. What happened?

Shame on you.

And I was repelled by the rampant first-person-ism that glutted the arts section last week.

First-person is a fun writing style, but it can be overused and abused in an arts section. There's a reason why, in the real world, editors seldom encourage or accept the first-person: nobody gives a shit about you.

Arts editors, reign in your writers. Every arts story is an opinion, whether or not it's in the first person. Challenge your writers to write something filled with who they are and what they think . . . without putting in the "I."

It's hard but will be a sight better than the lazy-ass me-me-me shit and ads-cum-"stories" that *the Martlet* has wrought on this disappointed reader.

Briony Smith

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The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper

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Letters: *Martlet* has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community, with priority given to undergraduate students.
Letters must be typewritten, submitted on disk or by e-mail and include your name, student number and phone number for verification.
Letters must be 200 words maximum.
Deadline for letters is noon on the Friday before publication date.
Letters will be prioritized by order received.
Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed.

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Labour trouble brewing at Starbucks

by Bryna Hallam

"What's disgusting? Union busting! What's outrageous? Starbucks wages!"

Chants filled the streets of Manhattan on Aug. 28, 2004, as hundreds marched to protest Starbucks' actions against workers trying to unionize a single store. In the middle of the crowd was Daniel Gross, the main organizer of both the drive to unionize and the march. Then he disappeared, arrested by police and dragged away in what the Industrial Workers of the World union (IWW) characterized as Starbucks' bidding.

Gross was charged with resisting arrest, among other things. Anthony Polanco, a barista at the Starbucks store on Madison Avenue and Gross's co-worker, was arrested at the same time. Their arrest prompted the union to release a statement later that day, questioning whether it was a coincidence that two of the most active organizers of the campaign were arrested.

Gross agreed, questioning why a peaceful protest of 200 people was broken up by police in the first place and whether the NYPD's involvement was a show of force intended to break the union.

The protest came three months after workers at the 36th and Madison store in New York City submitted union cards to the IWW, becoming the first Starbucks store in the United States to try to join a union.

Although Starbucks' 2003 Corporate Social Responsibility report states that "Starbucks recognizes our partners' right to unionize," many people are asking why, if that's true, Starbucks is fighting against the bid to unionize in New York.

When Howard Schultz, chairperson and chief global strategist of Starbucks Coffee, heard that one store in New York City was thinking of joining a union, he called the news "very disappointing and disturbing."

In a voice mail message sent to New York City stores on May 19, 2004, just one day after workers submitted union cards to the IWW, Howard Schultz emphasized how he and other Starbucks "partners"—company lingo for its employees—had built a company based on, as he said, trust and respect.

"When we wrote the guiding principles," said Schultz in his message, "we very deliberately put creating a great work environment and treating everyone with dignity and respect as our highest priority."

As proof of the company's commitment to its employees, Schultz was quick to point to Starbucks' number 34 ranking on *Fortune* magazine's 2004 "Top 100 Places to Work" list, as well as the fact that the company offers health-care coverage and ownership in the company—in the form of shares of stock—to both full- and part-time employees.

Since the first store opened in 1971, Starbucks has created a socially responsible image. In addition to the benefits it offers its workers, the company is also involved in community projects, and since 1997, the Starbucks Foundation has made more than 800 grants totaling more than $8.5 million US to projects serving low-income and at-risk youth.

Schultz has long recognized the importance of his employees to the image and success of the company, agreeing that part of the Starbucks product is in fact the workers—the friendly faces behind the coffee machines.

"There's no doubt in my mind that the success of our company, the low level of attrition, the loyalty of our customers, the productivity and the responsibility that our people have within the company has added significant value to what Starbucks has done in the marketplace," he said in a radio interview with the kaisernetwork.org—part of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, a non-profit, private operating foundation focusing on the major health care issues facing the United States.

Schultz credits his childhood—his father worked in a diaper factory and the family had no health insurance—with shaping his desire to extend health benefits to as many employees as possible.

But according to the union, the majority of workers can't afford to take advantage of the benefits offered to them. Baristas in New York have a starting wage of $7.75, well above the state's $5.15 minimum wage. But none of the company's baristas are full-time employees, making it difficult for them to make enough to contribute to the 401K retirement and health plans offered to them. In addition, the health plan is only available to employees working an average of 20 hours per week, meaning that for some, coverage isn't even an option.

" 'Middle-of-the road' people often point out that Starbucks is better than some employers," said Gross, 25. "This is true," he admitted, but pointed out that many workers live below the poverty line and suffer from repetitive strain injuries.

Polanco said he hurts constantly from working the espresso machine. "I suffer from pains in my wrist all the time," he said. "Some days I can't move my wrists."

"You can be pouring 160-degree milk," Gross said. "Not a day goes by where scalding hot liquid doesn't hit you somewhere on your hands or arms."

Despite the complaints of Gross and Polanco,

B. BRADY PHOTO

Only 12 Starbucks stores in B.C. are unionized. The efforts of one New York store to join a union have been met with strong resistance from the company.

B. BRADY PHOTO

Employees at B.C. Starbucks stores start at $8.60 per hour. The company made a record $4.1 billion US in 2003.

according to company spokesperson Audrey Lincoff, a nationwide survey of Starbucks workers indicated a satisfaction rate of 86 per cent.

"We respect the free choice of our partners. We don't have a role in the decisions they have made," said Lincoff in an interview with *New York Daily News* in May. "But we believe that what we offer in terms of a total pay package and the work environment is the best possible."

The company's efforts to keep the single store from joining a union didn't stop with a plea from Schultz. In the five months that have followed the initial vote, Starbucks has appealed the results of the vote to form a union, and has allegedly bribed workers with pizza dinners and Mets tickets and threatened to push employees down to the minimum wage if they support the union.

In a June 1 press release, the IWW accused Starbucks of using scare tactics to intimidate workers, claiming that "management has been interrogating certain workers about the union while spreading misinformation about joining."

Despite all the efforts by Starbucks to keep their workers from joining a union, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) issued a decision in favor of the union on July 2. Workers were to be allowed to vote in a union certification election.

But on July 28, the NLRB decided to hear an appeal from Starbucks questioning the employees' right to unionize. The company wanted all of the stores in downtown New York—50 in total—to be required to vote. After the board said that union organizers would have to wait to vote on their union until the end of the appeals process—which could last up to three years—the organizers decided to withdraw their request to vote on instituting a union, realizing they had to change tactics.

Polanco said the workers would continue to organize, but realized that "they did not have a chance for legal representation."

This isn't the first time Starbucks employees have fought to join a union.

In fact, before Schultz and a group of investors bought out Starbucks in 1987, workers in the company were members of the United Food and Commercial Workers union. Within four months of Schultz taking over, workers voted to leave the union. It was another five years before the roasting plants and warehouses followed suit.

Workers in a roasting plant in Kent, Wash., attempted to reorganize in 1999. According to union officials, that attempt was also met with resistance from the company, with key organizers and supporters being threatened with job loss.

The struggle to unionize was still ongoing in September 2001. Don Goodson, a worker at the plant and union organizer, was penalized for missing work as a result of the September 11 attacks—he was stranded in Texas, unable to get back to Washington. The union claims he was targeted and punished because of his history of supporting the union.

In September 1996, workers at five Vancouver stores joined the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) union. Twelve stores in B.C. are now unionized, and they are the only ones in the company. Jef Keighley, spokesman for Starbucks' unionized workers, noted that, as in New York City, Starbucks resisted the efforts of its Canadian workers to unionize. Rumours that job losses may result if a union agreement was ratified circulated through many stores.

Gains made with the first contract included seniority as a key factor in shift scheduling, maternity leave and a 75 cent per hour wage increase. Soon after the approval of the contract, Starbucks announced that these gains would be applied to all B.C. stores. As a result, the company stated, the only difference between union and non-union stores is the fact that union members pay union dues.

Shari Mallinson agrees. Mallinson started working at Starbucks not long after the first stores unionized and worked at one unionized store along with two non-union stores. She saw no difference between the stores and notes that in her experience, the union "protected slackers."

"I don't really think there's any reason to have a union," she said, adding that in general, working conditions at Starbucks aren't that bad. She also points out that there are people in the company to take complaints to, reducing the need for the involvement of a union.

That may have once been the case, said Becky Milos, but things have changed at the company. Milos worked for Starbucks on and off for four years starting in 2000.

In her opinion, recent moves to make things move more smoothly business-wise—including training and deployment based on how McDonald's operates—are coming at the expense of baristas.

In general, she feels conditions at the stores depend on the managers and how far they're willing to go for their employees. "At one store, there was no need for a union because there was a mutual respect," she said, noting that her manager has since left the company, unhappy with the direction it was taking.

Before Milos herself left the company in June 2004, she heard rumours from her manager that the company was trying to schedule baristas for less than 20 hours per week in an effort to curb the costs associated with health benefits—a move she characterizes as "disgusting."

Keighley argues that Starbucks does not mention the fact that, unlike at non-union stores, seniority is a key factor in scheduling hours of work, that employees in union stores are entitled to be scheduled for two consecutive days off rather than split days off, or that union stores have access to an effective grievance procedure.

In addition, Keighley said the company is "union-busting" with wage and some workplace conditions negotiated by the union and Starbucks being used for the company's non-union Vancouver stores as well. "In effect, we are bargaining for improvements for all B.C. Starbucks employees—both union and non-union—based on the strength of our unionized stores."

For example, in the middle of negotiations with the company in 1999, the union held an "unstrike," where workers discarded their khaki, black and white dress code for street clothes, and flaunted tattoos and piercings, all of which are not allowed under Starbucks' dress code. The action was in response to a standstill in contract negotiations between the company and the union.

"Starbucks are trying to break the union and we aren't going to let them," said Keighley at the time. "They've taken a fundamentally anti-union stance, despite their marketing image of a corporation with a conscience."

Before the unstrike, Starbucks management claimed that based on a market study, wage increases were not warranted and that none would be given. When the job action ended three and a half months later, Starbucks once again gave the benefits won by the union—this time a 40-cents-per-hour cost of living increase—to all its workers in B.C.

The company claimed the wage increase was based on a market study and that it had nothing to do with the union. Launi Skinner, then the regional vice-president for Western Canada, even warned employees not to believe the union if it claimed to be responsible for the raise in wages.

Back in New York City, Gross and Polanco remain optimistic despite the obstacles they've faced—and will continue to face, if Vancouver is any indication. Although nothing has moved forward since the protest, workers in New York are continuing to organize.

What it comes down to, says Gross, is that the company is "not including the baristas in the tremendous, almost unparalleled, success."

And working for a company that brought in record net revenues of $4.1 billion US in 2003—and according to *Forbes* magazine, Schultz himself took home over $2.5 million US in salary and benefits last year—it doesn't seem unreasonable for workers to ask for a bigger slice of the profit pie.

"We remain steadfast in our belief that Starbucks workers deserve better," said Polanco. "A poverty wage is not sufficient to live a decent life. The union is here to stay."

The Nutcracker canoodling with Christmas

What: *The Nutcracker*
When: Nov. 25 to 27, 8 p.m.
Where: Royal Theatre
How Much: $34 to $64

by Jane Griffith

While at a coffee shop, I noticed a man inside—sans authoritative apron—loading discounted Halloween merchandise into a sack. I thought he was stealing things, and I continued to sip my beverage. (Anyone stealing orange skeletons is beyond justice.) When the staff acknowledged this man's actions, I realized he was no common bandit, but a plain-clothed barista preparing for Christmas. I should have suggested a better way to canoodle with the season: the Alberta Ballet/Ballet BC production of *The Nutcracker.*

The Nutcracker evokes the "holiday feeling" much differently than other methods (gimmicky Christmas appliqué sweaters or rap albums, for instance). *The Nutcracker* will never feel like a Tim Allen movie shoved down your throat because it can exist apart from Christmas as an organic whole: it is, at its base, an exhibition of beautiful dance and timeless music.

Alberta Ballet and Ballet BC have collaborated this year to perform *The Nutcracker* in Victoria, part of the Victoria Dance Series. The show is complete with classically iconic characters like the Sugar Plum Fairy, Uncle Drosselmeyer and Clara. Tchaikovsky's music, inextricably married to *The Nutcracker*, will provide the background. Alberta Ballet and Ballet BC will play with the concept of imagination while they tickle the audience's, which *The Nutcracker* always promises to do.

This particular Victoria performance, however, uniquely builds on *The Nutcracker's* long tradition and guarantees an exciting twist. *The Nutcracker* was originally choreographed by the Brahma of classical ballet, Marius Petipa, in 1892. This Victoria performance is choreographed by Mikko Nissinen, the former artistic director for Alberta Ballet. Nissinen and Alberta Ballet refuse to let ballet stagnate, accomplishing their task with talented performers and exciting choreography. The Victoria performance will also include a preshow reading of *The Nutcracker* story by Jim Leard, a famous storyteller.

Victoria will be treated to live music at this performance, which has not happened in 10 years. The sounds of *The Nutcracker* will be produced by 40 members of the Victoria Symphony, led by guest conductor Peter Dala. Blair Puente, an Alberta Ballet dancer who plays Uncle Drosselmeyer and the Snow King, says the live music "adds an additional human element which enriches the performance."

High-calibre Alberta Ballet and Ballet BC performers comprise the cast, along with 44 local children who are performing in Victoria only. Puente, who has performed versions of *The Nutcracker* for 10 years, was once one of those children. As a young student at the National Ballet in Toronto, Puente devilishly plunked a fellow child-dancer into an onstage barrel while performing *The Nutcracker.* Fearing reprimand, Puente was surprised to learn that the teachers loved his "improvisation" (which he knew was an evil prank). The teachers instructed Puente to throw the other student into the barrel during subsequent performances.

Puente, hailing from Ontario, has danced with Alberta Ballet for two seasons.

He appreciates the non-competitive family atmosphere the company cultivates. Under the guidance of Alberta Ballet's artistic director, Jean Grand-Maitre, Puente says he feels he can use "classical vocabulary to express contemporary issues," making traditional ballet contemporary and relevant.

Augmented by a rich cast, a preshow storyteller and a live orchestra, the 2004 Victoria performance of *The Nutcracker* will evoke the Christmas spirit with a nod to superior athleticism and art. And you don't even need a discounted Halloween shelf to experience it.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Talia Evtushenko stars in Mikko Nissinen's *The Nutcracker.*

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A night of folk and fantasy

Who: The UVic Wind Symphony, conductor Gerald King
Where: Farquhar Auditorium, University of Victoria Centre
When: Friday, Nov. 26 @ 8 p.m.
How Much: $10

by Patrick Jennings

A 13-year-old boy singing soprano, violin solos, soothing recorder tones, pulsating Celtic drums—these are just a mere tinge of the musical colours that will be used by the University of Victoria's Wind Symphony, the most prominent performing ensemble at UVic, to enchant and captivate their audience into a melodic euphoria this Friday night at the Farquhar Auditorium.

On a minor note, "wind symphony" refers to an ensemble that is normally 100 per cent devoid of any singers or string players. In spite of this, anyone who attends the concert will be amazed as conductor Gerald King once again proves that there are no boundaries too high for young musicians who bear the purpose and tenacity to pass them.

For those who are unfamiliar, King is the director of the UVic music department and a man who enjoys balancing his role as an educator with his hard-won reputation as one of Canada's most qualified conductors and clinicians. The literature is drawn from some of the finest minds of contemporary and traditional styles, as well as the commission of a much-anticipated new arrangement of Howard Shore's famous *Lord of The Rings* film score by Steven Capaldo, an acclaimed Australian music educator and the newest addition to the music education faculty.

More concert highlights are sure to be the performance of Eric Whitacre's "Sleep," an originally choral modern piece intended as the music for Robert Frost's "Stopping in the Woods," as well as the adapted score from Puccini's early 20th-century opera *Madama Butterfly*.

"Don't forget American composer Jack Stamp's 'Pastime (A Tribute to Baseball),'" King gently reminds me as we breeze through a quick interview. He pauses and spins around. "Oh yes, and the gypsy dance piece by Jan Vander Roost, 'Puszta.'"

Armed with an impressive array of woodwind, brass and percussion players, the band itself numbers more than 60 and is known for bringing out guest players and conductors to facilitate their range of music. Students should know that while the Vikes may have a well-endowed trophy case, this was the company that premiered numerous contemporary works to the world of symphonic music, attended the British Columbia Music Educators' Conference as the primary guest ensemble, and has toured band festivals and events all over the world. A mere hint at the ensemble's musical prowess could also be their role as Canada's sole representatives at the 2002 Annual Western International Band Conference in Seattle.

As far as their present strength, King stresses this: "I think that the first thing I need to say is that this term has seen a tremendous refinement of work ethic. This band has managed to arrive at an amazing level of progress since September."

PROVIDED PHOTO

The Beatnuts are known for their catchy-ass beats.

Gimme the beat

Who: The Beatnuts
When: Saturday, Nov. 27
Where: Sugar Nightclub
How Much: $24

by Matthew Wilson

A few years back, I was in a nightclub when the strangest thing happened . . . a song ruined my night. It sounds pathetic, but it's true.

I was just sitting back by the bar, enjoying a refreshing beverage in the company of friends, when I first heard that distinctive beat. My heart jumped, and I thought to myself, "Holy crap, they're playing the Beatnuts! I love this song!" But my senses deceived me as I began to hear Jennifer Lopez singing about how she's from some block or something lame like that. Was this DJ just messing with the beats or something? No. It was a massacre of the Beatnuts song "Watch Out Now". Yeah, I know—it's a sad story.

It's lucky that the New York City natives have a good sense of humour because they let the beat-jack slide and didn't even press charges. Nice guys. I'm pretty sure they didn't take offence, because that beat was just one of a whole stockpile of sick ones they've made over the years. Having just released their seventh album, *Mike Me*, in their 10-year career, these guys have emerged as figureheads for New York rap.

They continue to exercise their right to make catchy-ass beats and rhymes that don't focus on being hardcore but focus on just having a good time. A self-described party group, the Beatnuts' major appeal is their lighthearted attitude toward hip-hop. You won't hear the Beatnuts ever claiming to be something that they are not.

Chartattack.com MC/producer JuJu had a little to say about the Beatnuts' rap, as well as others.

"We're just reppin' where we're from and how we put it down, basically," he said. "Not no tough guy shit, nothing like that. Just some shit for you to listen to and have a good time. Some real hip-hop.

"Because as far as hip-hop right now, I'm not feeling none of that shit because the essence of hip-hop is sampling, and a lot of people don't sample anymore. You got these kids that are really talented writers, but their music is redundant."

The Beatnuts have and will continue to influence hip-hop in the positive way they always do. They make those beats that stick in your brain for extended periods of time, forcing you to play their tracks over and over.

It's just a shame that JLo agrees.

One man's trash . . .

by Stephanie Bowen

There were those in the audience on *National Treasure*'s opening night who chuckled good-naturedly at its PG-variety humour and were awed by its unearthing of "conspiracies" embedded in U.S. history.

And then there were those poor cynics who snorted at every one of Nicolas Cage's poorly timed tension-breakers and blanched at every glossing over of conspiracy theory.

I may have been alone in the latter category.

National Treasure goes something like this: Benjamin Franklin Gates comes from a long line of treasure hunters, intent on finding The Largest Treasure Known to Man. Discovered by the Knights Templar in the 12th century, it has been hidden for centuries because it is just too big. Ben, with his trusty dunce of a sidekick and pretty blonde hostage, must decipher a series of clues left by his founding fathers to unearth the enormous treasure.

But wait. There's more. It's a race against the clock because Ian, once a partner of Ben's, wants a piece of the action. Together with his posse of goons, he shadows Ben, Abigail and Riley with his unquenchable greed. As if that weren't enough, Ben has stolen the Declaration of Independence for the invisible treasure map on its reverse and is being tailed by the FBI. Gadzooks!

Sound familiar? It should. Not only does the film follow the most predictable of formulas, it draws on myths and theories generally considered more fact than fiction.

Take the Knights Templar. The first ever band of holy warriors, they fought alongside King Richard I in the Crusades, where they discovered some form of treasure below the Temple of Solomon.

However, while *National Treasure* claims that the find was actually just loot of epic proportions, legend has it that the Knights actually discovered the Holy Grail. Following their disbandment, numerous secret societies were formed to protect the Grail's secrets.

Which, I suppose, is where *National Treasure* is supposed to jump off. The Freemasons, an actual secret society affiliated with the U.S. government, have located the non-Grail treasure, brought it to America, and hidden it below an ingenious web of clues.

Unfortunately, with the switch in venue from Europe to the United States and the complete eradication of the myth's religious aspects, *National Treasure* rapidly digresses into a glorified American history lesson. As Cage races from clue to clue, we learn all kinds of interesting tidbits about those crazy founding fathers and their Revolutionary War.

The film also manages to completely trivialize speculation surrounding the Freemasons with its outlandish plot. I mean, an invisible treasure map on the back of the Declaration of Independence? Secret spyglasses hidden for hundreds of years by Benjamin Franklin? Nicolas Cage as an avid historian? It's all so implausible, it just can't be taken seriously.

What we are meant to take seriously is the glaring pro-U. S. A. tone. Throughout I kept hearing phrases so eerily familiar that they made me squirm in my seat, particularly when the founding fathers are toasted with the comment, "Here's to the men who did what was considered wrong in order to do what they knew was right." Considering the political climate in the United States these days, an uber-patriotic film about America's past, chock-full of guidelines for its future, seems just the ticket for swaying the masses.

Or maybe I'm just being paranoid.

However, if *National Treasure* does happen to hold any gems of knowledge, they're buried so far under American rhetoric that I doubt any map, code or secret spyglasses could unearth them.

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A buffet of student art

Who: Art Education 401 Students
When: Opening Nov. 29 @ 7 p.m., displayed until Dec. 6
Where: MacLaurin Foyer
How Much: Free

by Melanie Law

Think you've been busy this semester? Wait until you see what the students in Art Education 401 have been up to. The class will be hosting an exhibition showing the semester-long art projects that each student has worked on individually in the course.

The class of 12 is self-directed, so students choose the media they work with, whether applying familiar techniques or challenging themselves in an unexplored area. The range of media, as well as the range of experience, makes for an eclectic class.

Class time is reserved for displaying works-in-progress to the rest of the class for peer feedback and for presenting techniques and processes to try.

AE 401 class member Theresa Shand loves the self-directed nature of the course. "I can work within my own expectations as opposed to that of the instructor," she explains. "With that said, we do have our fearless and insightful leader/prof Stan [Horner], who keeps us all on course, encourages us and leads us to the end."

Graduate student Veda Mata agrees. "The group process has been great, and I've really appreciated the feedback aspect of [the class]," she says. "It's been more about the process than about the end product. For me this has been a process of transformation from the left to the right side of the brain and of 'self' positioning my first attempt at 'art.' My work has a strong self-portrait aspect to it. It also refers to the transmutation of light into form."

MELANIE LAW PHOTO

Sheena Kalmakoff displays her work.

The class exhibition is a unique opportunity to let students share their work on a larger scale. The artists range in experience. Some have never exhibited work while others have shown and sold their works, but all seem proud at the prospect of their work being hung in the hallowed halls of the university. The artistic assortment will vary from photo collage to sound-scapes (artistic environments created digitally with sound), from sculpture to painting.

Class member Sheena Kalmakoff, whose series "Fusion" creates a "space where digital media and conventional painting can coexist," explains that "'Fusion' is the presence and interplay of old and new technology on the same surface. The series is a juxtaposition of industrial themes against organic themes."

Shand, inspired by artists like Jackson Pollock, has explored "action painting."

"It challenges and pushes me out of the comfort zone of familiar lands and into the realm of non-objective freedom of expression like nothing else I've ever done," she says.

Whatever the medium used, the students of AE 401 promise an electrifying exhibition of work. The opening night will feature an artist's reception and refreshments. If you get a chance to lift your exhausted eyes from the pages of your textbook and step outside the cloistered walls of the library, head over to MacLaurin and gorge yourselves on the buffet of images in X-a-bition of the Mind.

Not your typical 'Beauty Queens'

What: Beauty Queens
Where: The Art Gallery of Greater Victoria
When: Performance by John Boehme, Nov. 27, 1-4 p.m., Opening night, Dec. 10 at 8 p.m., exhibit runs through Feb. 27, 2005
How Much: Adults $6/ Students $4

by Andrea Dupuis

If you're strolling down the Gorge walkway or near the Inner Harbour this Saturday, don't be alarmed to see a man paddling through the water on a surfboard. He may even try to trade you something.

John Boehme, a local performance artist, will be making his way across the Gorge on a custom-made surfboard as part of a new exhibit at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria called Beauty Queens, which explores the culture of islands in Canada and around the world.

Boehme will paddle to several old post-colonial trade spots where he will swap or trade with locals and tourists.

"Islands are the beauty queens of the mainland. They are our treasures," says Lisa Baldissera, a graduate from the University of Victoria and one of three curators who co-produced the exhibition featuring work by artists from the three large islands in Canada: Vancouver Island, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. Each curator chose an island they considered "partner" to their own island and will bring the work here.

Shauna McCabe from Prince Edward Island chose Ireland because of the presence of Irish settlers on the East Coast. Bruce Johnson from Newfoundland chose Trinidad because of immigration routes. Lisa Baldissera from Vancouver Island chose Hawaii.

"We are the Hawaii of Canada," says Baldissera. Like Hawaii, Vancouver Island has a similar sense of isolation, but we have a relationship with the mainland for economics. Also, both Vancouver Island and Hawaii are tourist destinations, says Baldissera. "We are the lotus. We look to the mainland for our identity," she says.

Boehme's performance will be videotaped and installed alongside other art works for the Beauty Queens exhibit. "John is someone who really makes use of place," says Baldissera. "He is a surfer and he spends a lot of time at Jordan River. He is very connected to place—this island." His surfboard will be displayed as part of the installation, as well as a video from a similar performance in Prince Edward Island.

Boehme researched post-colonial trade routes around the area and will paddle to old trade locations along the Gorge and Inner Harbour, including the Canoe Brewpub, Point Ellice House (where he will be greeted by someone who will make a trade with him while wearing traditional colonial garb) and the Songhees' village. His final destination on the estimated three-hour performance is the Inner Harbour, where he will greet, interact with and hopefully swap goods with tourists.

"He is an extremely well-respected performance artist," says Baldissera. He was short-listed for the Sobe Art Award, a $25,000 prize given to an outstanding Canadian artist every two years. He was one of the five artists from this region who were short-listed. Spectators can visit Boehme at any of the above locations. Check out www.aggv.ca for a complete map.

Richard Simmons meets Iggy Pop

What: Nardwuar, the Evaporators, Immaculate Machine, Kincaide, Fast Jacket
When: Nov. 26, 6:30 p.m.
Where: White Eagle Hall, 90 Dock St.
How Much: $8

by Megan Drysdale

Why should you go see the Evaporators at White Eagle Hall on Nov. 26?

"Because we have songs about Canadian history," Nardwuar the Human Serviette, the Vancouver band's frontman, answers. "And shirts for $5. And it's cheap to get in."

Known for his ever-present tam-o'-shanter (Scottish cap) and obscure fan knowledge, Nardwuar has dared celebrities to doot-doot on his CITR radio program and, later, on Much Music.

But the Evaporators can't be tossed away as a side project. The band is a who's who of the Vancouver rock scene – Dave Carswell of the Smugglers, John Collins of the New Pornographers and Destroyer's Dan Bejar.

There aren't many crossover fans, despite the super-group lineup. But having band members who've played in a town with another band has proven useful. "[Someone will] know where to drive and where to stay," Nardwuar says. "We'll get people who like one of the guys' other bands, and they'll let us stay with them."

Formed in February 1986, the band didn't release an album until December 1996. "It took me roughly 10 years to save up enough money to release an album," said Nardwuar. "If we'd had the money, we would've had it out faster. Now you can put songs on the Internet and people know who you are."

Since then they've released two more LPs, on vinyl with free CDs, including the new album, *Ripple Rock*. The album's title track is about the city of Courtney, B.C.

They're known for their energetic live show, and Friday shouldn't disappoint. "I've been described as Richard Simmons meets Iggy Pop. I just love having fun, so I jump around," says Nardwuar.

Get to the show early, since Thee Goblins, a band who have followed the Evaporators to many a show, play at 6:30 p.m. But Nardwuar, why aren't they on the poster? "That's just how mysterious they are." A keyboardist and a drummer don sheets on their heads and University of Washington sweatshirts.

Also playing the all-ages show are Victoria's own Immaculate Machine, Kincaide and Fastjacket.

The Evaporators try to play many all-ages shows, according to Nardwuar, because "at a bar show, people could just be there for the bar. People have to make an effort to get [to a hall], so they're really into it."

Check out www.theevaporators.com and www.nardwuar.com for more information.

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BASKETBALL BRIEFS

Women drop two to UBC

It was a tough weekend for the Vikes women's basketball team, as they lost two back-to-back games against the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds.

In their first game on Friday, Nov. 19, the Vikes lost 55–48. It began with UBC quickly pulling ahead by six and dominating until the half. They outshot the Vikes, extending their lead to seven. In the first 16 minutes of the second half, the Vikes managed only 10 points and by the end of the game were shooting a dismal 38 per cent from the floor. Jania Mynott led the Vikes with a game high of 11 points.

The second match on Saturday saw UBC beat the Vikes 56–50. Though the game opened up with both teams vying for dominance, UBC went into the half up by three. In the third quarter a fiery UBC squad pushed their lead up to 13, but the game was far from over. With just over a minute left to go, the Vikes managed to go ahead by one, and the game was anyone's to take. Once again, though, with UBC dominating the floor, they managed to take back the lead and ultimately the game. High scorers in the game for UVic were Jodi Potts with 15 and Mynott with 14.

They fall to 2–4 for the season and take to the road Nov. 26 and 27 against Simon Fraser University for their final games before the Christmas break.

Men beat UBC in two straight

The Vikes men's basketball team handed the UBC Thunderbirds two consecutive losses this weekend, the team's first of the season.

The first game, on Friday, Nov.19, saw UVic go up 63–58 even after an abysmal beginning. UBC was quick to take a 10-point lead, but by the half, the Vikes, with a buzzer bucket by rookie Mitch Gudgeon, were able to tie it up at 25. The second half was a grudge match between two longtime rivals. By the end of the game, the Vikes offence, led by high scorer Brandon Ellis with 17 points and Chris Trumpy with 11, proved too much for the T'birds.

The second game came down to a single basket, as the Vikes defeated the T'birds 65–63. The first half saw the lead swing back and forth, but the Vikes were first to come out on top, though at the break a UBC offensive revival, led by Ryder McKeown with 10 points, put the T'birds ahead by four. The second half continued to be as physical as the first. UBC came out on top and extended their lead by a couple more, until Chris Trumpy took charge producing nine points in two minutes. The Vikes went up by one with minutes left to go. Successive baskets ensued for both teams, but UVic was able to finish with the last and deliver UBC their second straight loss. The Vikes were led by Chris Trumpy with 20 points. and climb to 4—2 for the season.

They are on the road Nov. 26 and 27, taking on Simon Fraser University in their final regular season action before the Christmas break.

—compiled by M.B

A new direction for the NBA

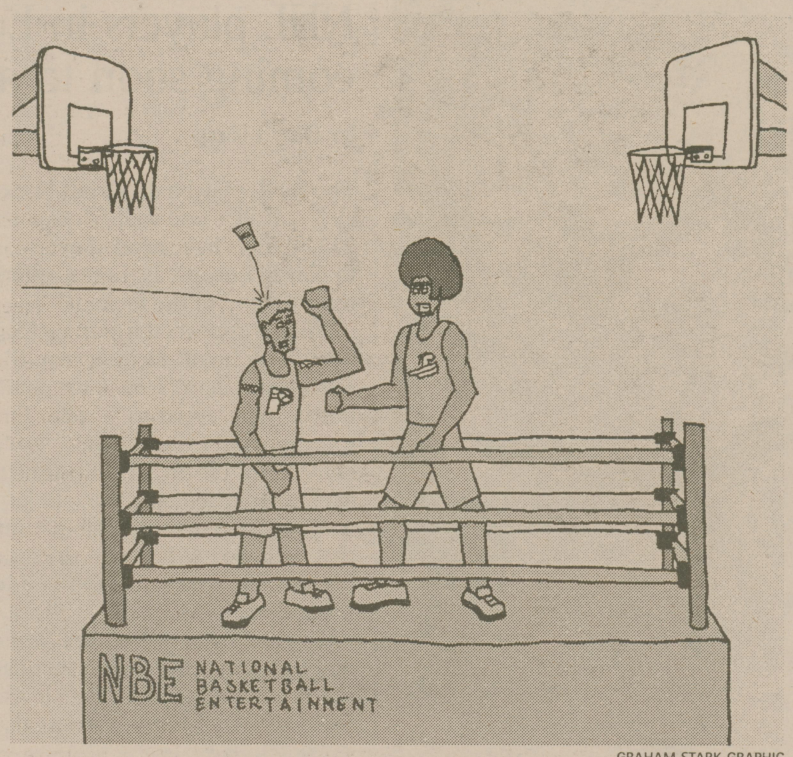
Finally, something to watch during the lockout

by Aaron Williams

From the Dream Team to the Salary Cap, the National Basketball Association's (NBA) Commissioner David Stern has been applauded many times for taking the NBA in new directions. However, last Friday's "Fight Night" will go down in history as his biggest success.

The fun began in the closing moments of the visiting Indiana Pacers' lopsided victory over the defending NBA champions, the Detroit Pistons.

With 46 seconds remaining, Indiana's Ron Artest fouled Detroit's Ben "the Body" Wallace from behind. Sporting massive biceps exceeded in size only by his mammoth hair, "Gentle" Ben turned around and delivered a two-handed push to Artest's face. Artest, wearing number 91 in honour of Dennis Rodman, responded with his best "Worm" impression. Instead of throwing punches, Artest, who earlier in the season asked the Pacers for a vacation, got under Wallace's skin by relaxing atop the scorekeeper's table.



GRAHAM STARK GRAPHIC

After the benches cleared and Wallace was restrained, the conflict appeared to be dying down when Artest, now smugly resting with his hands behind his head, was pelted in the face with an ice-filled beverage.

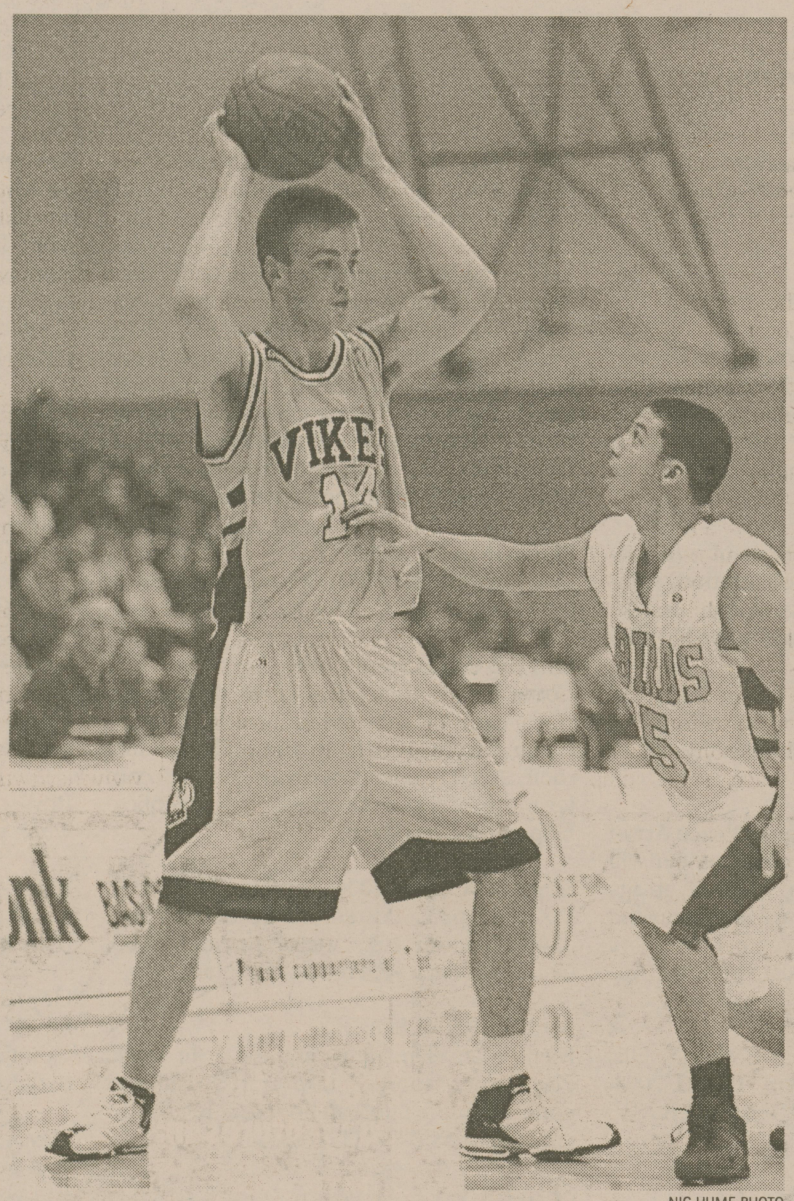
Switching into attack mode, reigning Defensive Player of the Year Artest rushed into the stands, grabbing a prime suspect. A horde of hostile fans and several Pacers players joined the fray, flying fisticuffs in all directions. The mob scene quickly spilled onto the court, with Artest levelling a cock-fisted fan and co-captain Jermaine O'Neal taking care of the fan's comrade who tried to tackle Artest in retaliation.

The game was finally called, and the Pacers left the floor to a chorus of boos, a shower of beer and hotdogs, and a flying folding chair. Now this is NBA entertainment! By weaving influences as far afield as soccer hooliganism and World Wrestling Entertainment, Mr. Stern managed to introduce the NBA to new audiences, without alienating its true fans or players.

First of all, the fans are happy because their hard-earned dollars now truly make them part of the action. The players are happy, since years of empty threats and verbal abuse from disgraceful fans can now be answered by following in the Pacers' "fistprints." Ron Artest is happy because his season-long suspension gives him plenty of time for vacation. Ben Wallace is happy, since the two-time Defensive Player of the Year has knocked the reigning champ out of contention. And David Stern is happy because the NBA has taken its rightful place as a leading story on the nightly news.

Moreover, the television network ABC is happy, since its anticipated Christmas broadcast of Miami vs. Los Angeles (Shaq vs. Kobe) can now be undercarded in favour of the conveniently scheduled Detroit vs. Indiana rematch. And back here at home, Canadians who like the occasional bench-clearing brawl with their hockey now have something to watch while the NHL is locked out.

Hats off David Stern, hats off.



NIC HUME PHOTO

Psst . . . the ball's up here!

The Vikes' Tyler Hass plays keep-away in their second consecutive victory over the UBC Thunderbirds this past weekend.

The shame in Spain

by Gavin Day

On Nov. 17 in Madrid, Spain, an exhibition game between the Spanish and English national soccer teams turned despicable as spectators hurled racial remarks at black players.

A banner on the field before the game promoted a world without racism. But the game itself became a fiery affair. Both teams exchanged hard tackles, but the Spanish club frustrated England time and time again with solid defence, ultimately winning the match 1–0.

Undoubtedly, the English were preoccupied with what was coming from the stands. Every time either defender Ashley Cole of Arsenal or Shaun Wright-Phillips of Manchester City (both black players now on the English national team) came into possession of the ball, hundreds to even a thousand fans started making monkey noises.

After the game, English captain David Beckham, who plays club football in Madrid, said he was "ashamed" of the behaviour expressed by the Spanish spectators. Defender Gary Neville said if English fans had done this sort of thing, there would have been a large outcry.

England's coach Sven-Goran Eriksson has demanded that action be taken by the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), soccer's world governing body, following the incident. Even England's Prime Minister Tony Blair has voiced his outrage. FIFA has begun an investigation into what happened.

In the post-match press conference, Spanish coach Luis Aragones dodged every question regarding the behaviour of the fans, and it took two whole days for the Spanish Football Association to issue an apology.

The Spanish media largely ignored the incident. Only one of the more liberal newspapers voiced disappointment toward their countrymen.

Shouting of racist chants from the Spanish crowd, in an under-21 friendly between Spain and England, also occurred the day before.

In preparation for a previous match, Aragones allegedly used a racial slur to describe an Arsenal teammate of forward Jose Antonio Reyes in an attempt to motivate the Spanish player.

When asked about this incident in a press conference leading up to the game against England, Aragones compared it to British racism toward black subjects in their colonies during earlier times.

Currently, Spain is bidding to host the 2012 Summer Olympic Games.

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NIC HUME PHOTO

Truckin' through the lane

The Vikes high scorer Jania Mynott attempts to dribble through UBC's defence in their second straight loss over the weekend.

The spirit of hockey lives on

NHL players in European hockey: coming soon to a television near you

by David Karp

The NHL may be dead, but hockey is still alive and well. More than 275 NHLers have headed overseas to play in Europe, as there appears to be no end to the lockout.

While it appears the Stanley Cup finals may be off for this year, the European Champions Cup could be the new event to watch. The tournament, featuring last year's champions from six European leagues, is set to take place in January of 2005. Former NHL stars that will be taking part include Jaromir Jagr, Marian Gaborik and Bryan McCabe.

We may even get to see some other pros in action. Sportsnet has reached an agreement to televise Swedish Elite League games, also starting in January.

The Swedish, Russian and Czech leagues now boast over 50 NHLers each. Eight Canucks, including Brendan Morrison and the Sedin twins, are also currently playing in Europe.

However, it's the Atlanta Thrashers who lead the way with 14 players overseas. This could mean that many of their players will be in better shape and ready to play if the NHL were to resume anytime soon. Other teams, like the Chicago Blackhawks, only have five players overseas.

One Russian team, AK Bars Kazan, owned by a wealthy oil company, is already looking stronger than many NHL teams. They currently have Alexei Kovalev, Ilya Kovalchuk, Vincent Lecavalier, Brad Richards, Nikolai Khabibulin and a half-dozen other NHL players.

Many players are even making decent money. Kovalchuk and Lecavalier are each reportedly making about $3 million U.S. With this kind of money available, it raises the issue of how many players will return to the NHL once it restarts.

Peter Forsberg has already stated he will stay in Sweden for the entire season, even if the lockout ends. Other players are also enjoying their experiences, and many of them are playing in front of their hometown fans for the first time as professionals.

However, there is much controversy surrounding these NHLers joining European teams. While some argue they boost attendance and can help develop younger players, others point out that NHL players are taking away jobs from those who need the money.

A few stars are also playing in the minors. Ottawa Senators star Jason Spezza has suited up for his team's AHL affiliate, while New Jersey centre Scott Gomez has returned home to Alaska and is playing in the ECHL.

The money is not as good, though. Gomez is only making about $12,000 U.S. this season, a substantial pay cut from the $2.9 million U.S. he would have earned with New Jersey. Gomez had three assists to lead Alaska to two wins and a loss against Victoria last week.

The WHA and OSHL, new North American hockey leagues looking to capitalize on the lockout, have so far been unable to get off the ground. The WHA hasn't played any games so far and the OSHL has staged only two.

With the rise of European hockey this year, this may be a turning point for the game. Many players may opt to stay in Europe if and when the lockout ends, transforming hockey into a truly global game with no one supreme league.

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ON CAMPUS

Jews and Brews
Come hangout and meet other jewish students at Felicitas. Thursday Nov. 25th at 6:30. Nachos provided by the Jewish Students Association. If you have any questions about this event or the JSA contact Revven at Rbrandt@uvic.ca

Looking for alternative sources of information on issues such as globalization, militarism, sustainable living, queer issues, racism and economics? Come to the VIPIRG library in SUB b122.

Pregnant? Explore the diversity of choices available to you. Contact holywild@uvic.ca for more info.

Meditation - The Key to Inner Peace Arran Stephens, local author and entrepreneur will be giving a revealing talk on Sant Mat, an age old spiritual science based on Meditation and Ethical living. Saturday, November 27, 3 p.m. at UVic in the Clearihue bldg. rm A201. Admission Free.

Victoria Jung Society Lecture. Catherine Ellis *Anima and Animus*. 7:30 p.m., Dec. 3, 2004, David Strong Bldg. C116. $10 members, $15 non-members.

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—Great food.
—Other entertainment
Saturday, Nov 27 at 7p.m., in the Michele Pujol Rm. in the SUB. Cost: $2 with student card, $4 for community or FREE with a food item! More info? blarney-time@yahoo.ca

WCWC and Sierra Club present "TEMPERATE RAINFORESTS OF HOME"
See photos of rare old growth temperate rainforests from Chile, Tasmania, Alaska, the Pacific Northwest, British Columbia and New Zealand and the endemic species that depend on them. Mon. November 29, 2004 6:30 PM DSB C128. Presented by Pat Rasmussen of the World Temperate Rainforest Network (WTRN). Free!

Renowned Buddhist master Gangteng Tulku Rinpoche from Bhutan, will offer empowerments and teachings in Victoria Dec. 10-19. Dec.10-12 includes Death and Dying, Guru Padma Sambhava & Green Tara Empowerments. Parts 1-5 of Dzog-chen: Realizing our Ultimate Nature will be taught Dec. 17-19. For details visit yeshekhorlo.ca or contact (250) 658-0357, damchos@shaw.ca

ROOMMATE WANTED— 2 bdrm apt., Oak Bay Junction, $335/month, incl. heat & hot water, cat ok. Call Steph: 721-0623.

Join the UVic Chess Club
Come and learn to play chess or improve your game. Club meets every Tuesday evening from 6:30-10 in the HSD building room A260. Contact dejamer@hotmail.com for more info. and put "chess" in subject box. Hope to see you there.

Skate with Santa 2004, Sunday, Dec. 12/04, 1:00-2:30 p.m., Pearkes Recreation Centre, 3100 Tillicum Rd., Victoria. Adults: $3, Child/Students: $2, Free skate rentals.

MENTORS NEEDED
Mentor an elementary student 1 hr/week. Play games, sports, make crafts, read and cook. For more info. call Bonnie at Big Brothers Big Sisters 475-1117, ext. 46.

SERVICES

Spa services at Discount Prices close to UVic. Esthetics, Gel Nails, Waxing, etc. www.alluredayspa.ca

SUNLESS TANNING BUISNESS
own your own mobile sunless tanning Business. Amazing results! Amazing Profits! Call Shelly @ 686-5446.

FOR SALE

POOL TABLE - Not slate top. Felt is in great shape. Two cues, billboard and snooker balls. $200 obo. 721-2523
FREE-HIDE-A-BED - No tears or holes. Needs a little cleaning. 721-2523.

1988 Toyota Tercel. Runs well. Good student transportation. $1,200 call 658-2783.
Smith Corona XD 4800 English/French Word Processing Typewriter, with 75,000 word Dictionary, in A1 condition. Includes extra ribbon, metal typewriter table and Living French Language Course, for sale.
Contact Eric Dowse at eedowse@shaw.ca or phone 652-9766.

FREE

Tony Little GAZELLE. Like new. Comes with 2 workout videos, instruction manual, and optional power pistons. You want it, you pick it up. Call Kristy: 380-3044.

HEY YOU!

Amy— Can't play, I gotta get down to work.

Chole— Can you help me start an escort service? PLEASE!

Roy— I know you don't like the pooh smell when you brush your teeth. Can I move in?

Boys— You know who you are. We love your house and promise to bring beer next time. (Any millionaires in the house yet?)

Hey AIESEC UVIC, thanxs for 6 weeks full of fun & craziness. I will love you guys 4-ever! Gesundheit & Chicken donuts for all! 8hugs to dutchie*. Jen.

Hey . . . You come to me sometimes, you-you-you. She comes to me sometimes,..tell me if you want me to, I want to make it good for you because you blow my mind, your the perfect find . . . you (-the ouiga board told me to do it-) . . . you.

Hey you . . . roomie! You're a damn fine roomate, don't let the dog tell you otherwise. She can go bark up a tree for all I care! Now...be a good roomate and clean my dishes!

CLASSIFIED RATES

Students and clubs | $2/issue
Non-students | $2/line
Businesses | $6/line
Hey you! | free

SAM & FUZZY

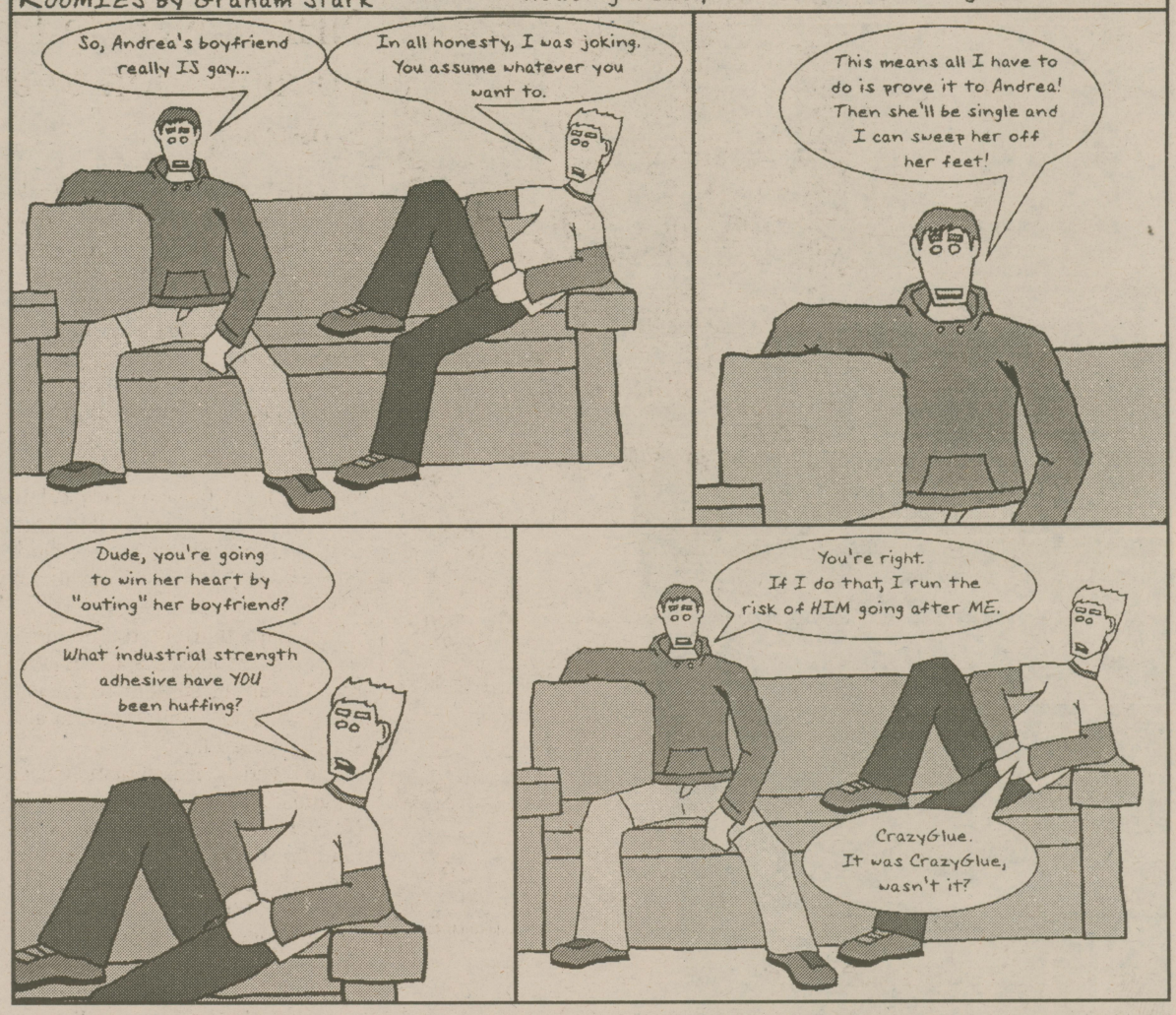
©2004 BY SAM LOGAN.

LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE ALMOST FINISHED BUILDING THE NEW ARENA: THE "ACE PHARMACEUTICALS STADIUM."
GREAT! MAYBE NOW SOME DECENT BANDS WILL ACTUALLY PLAY HERE.
WAIT... LET ME SEE THAT.
NO, NO, NO! ALL ARENAS SHOULD HAVE NAMES LIKE CHAOSPHERE OR DESTRUCTORARIUM! WHO THE HELL NAMES ONE AFTER SOME STUPID DRUG COMPANY?
IT'S A SPONSORSHIP DEAL, DUMMY.
FOR THE GOOD P.R., COMPANIES LIKE ACE WILL PAY BIG MONEY TO HAVE THINGS NAMED AFTER THEM.
NO WAY! IS THIS TRUE, SAM?
YES, FUZZY.
DON'T CALL ME THAT! FROM NOW ON, YOU WILL REFER TO ME AS ACE T. KIWI COLA MACROSOFT SONIBISHI!
AWW... BUT THE DESTRUCTORARIUM WAS SUCH A GOOD FIT FOR YOU!
SLOW!

NEW COMICS EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY AT: WWW.SAMANDFUZZY.COM

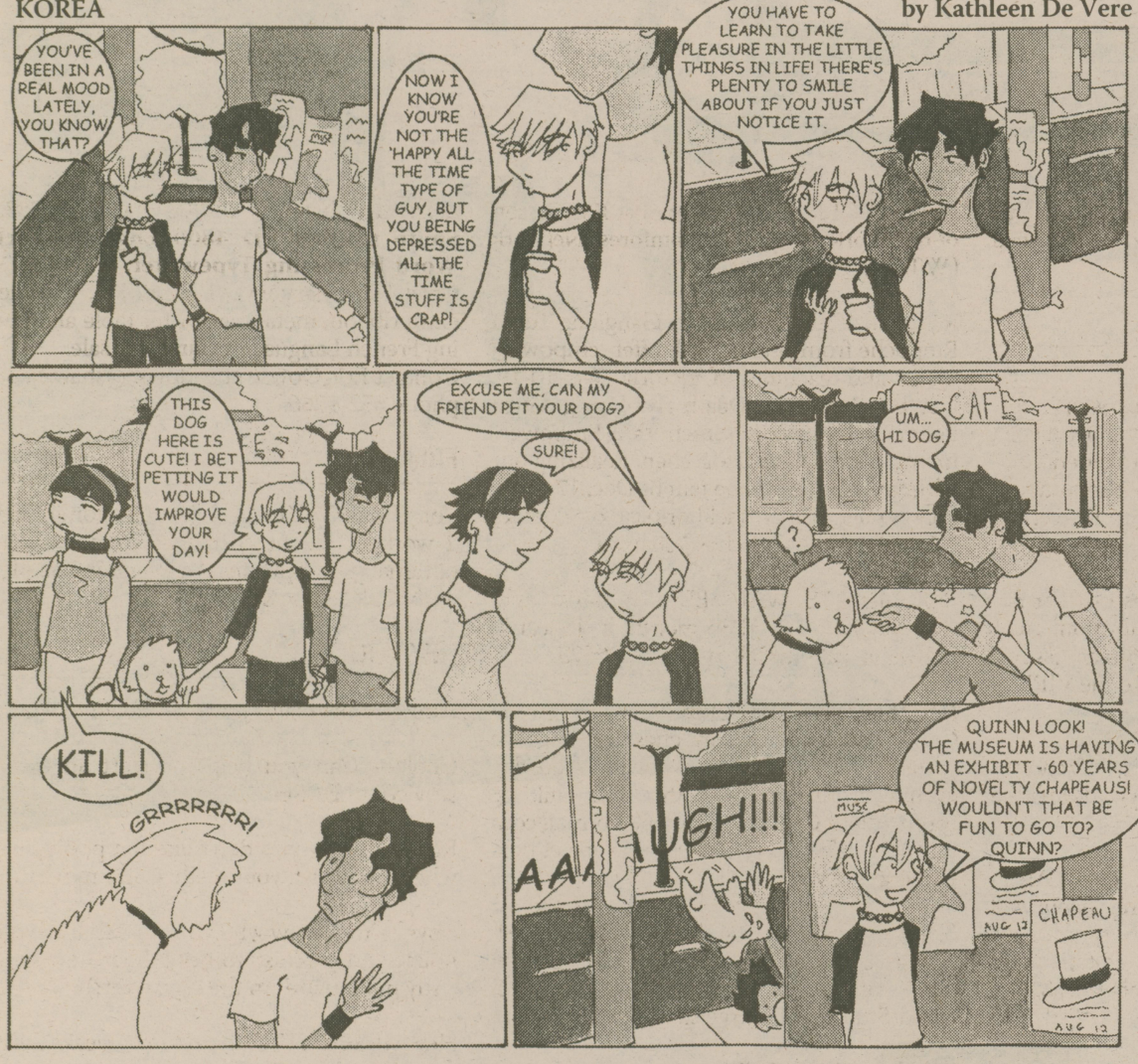
ROOMIES by Graham Stark

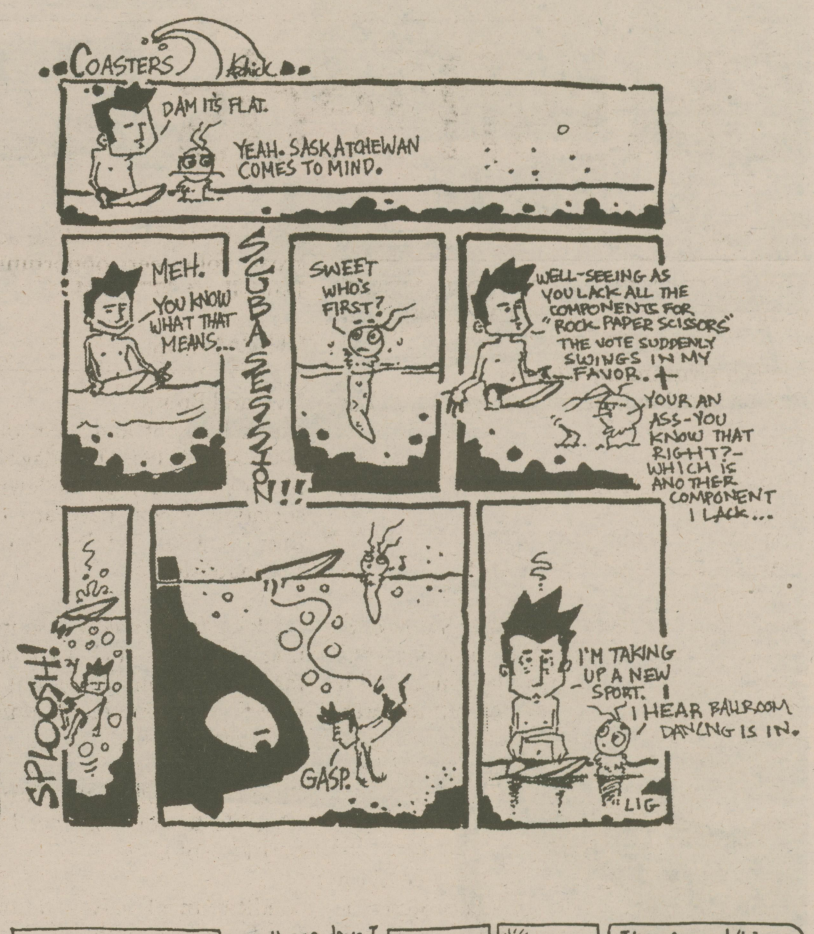
www.loading-ready-run.com gstark@uvic.ca

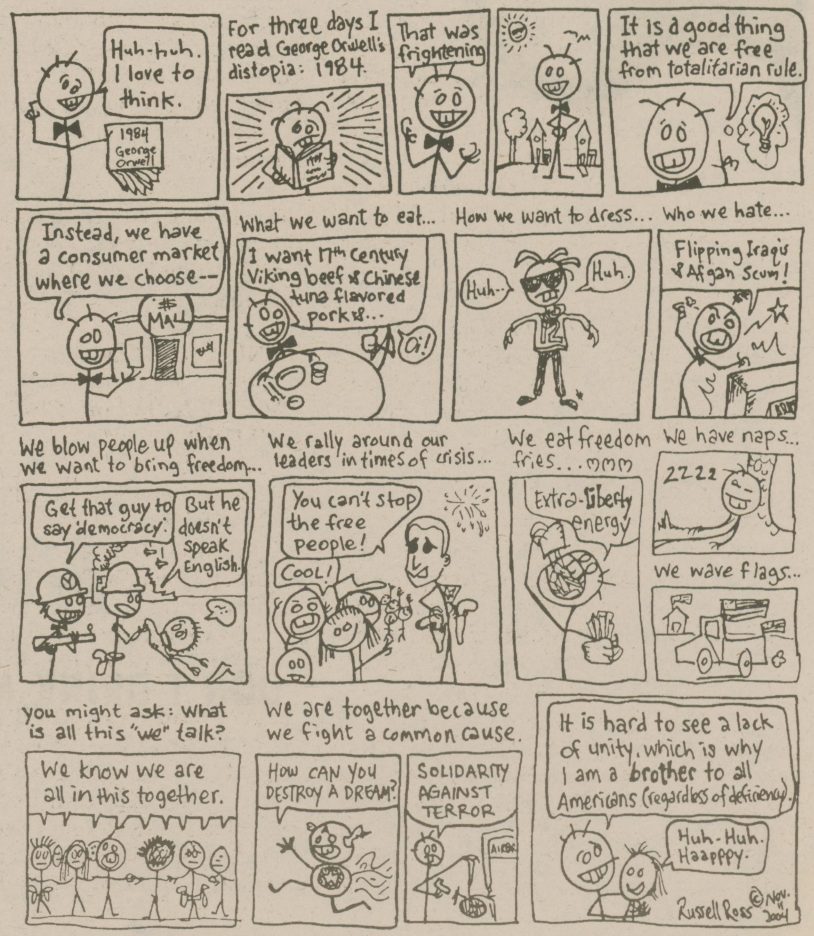

So, Andrea's boyfriend really IS gay...
In all honesty, I was joking. You assume whatever you want to.
This means all I have to do is prove it to Andrea! Then she'll be single and I can sweep her off her feet!
Dude, you're going to win her heart by "outing" her boyfriend?
What industrial strength adhesive have YOU been huffing?
You're right. If I do that, I run the risk of HIM going after ME.
CrazyGlue. It was CrazyGlue, wasn't it?

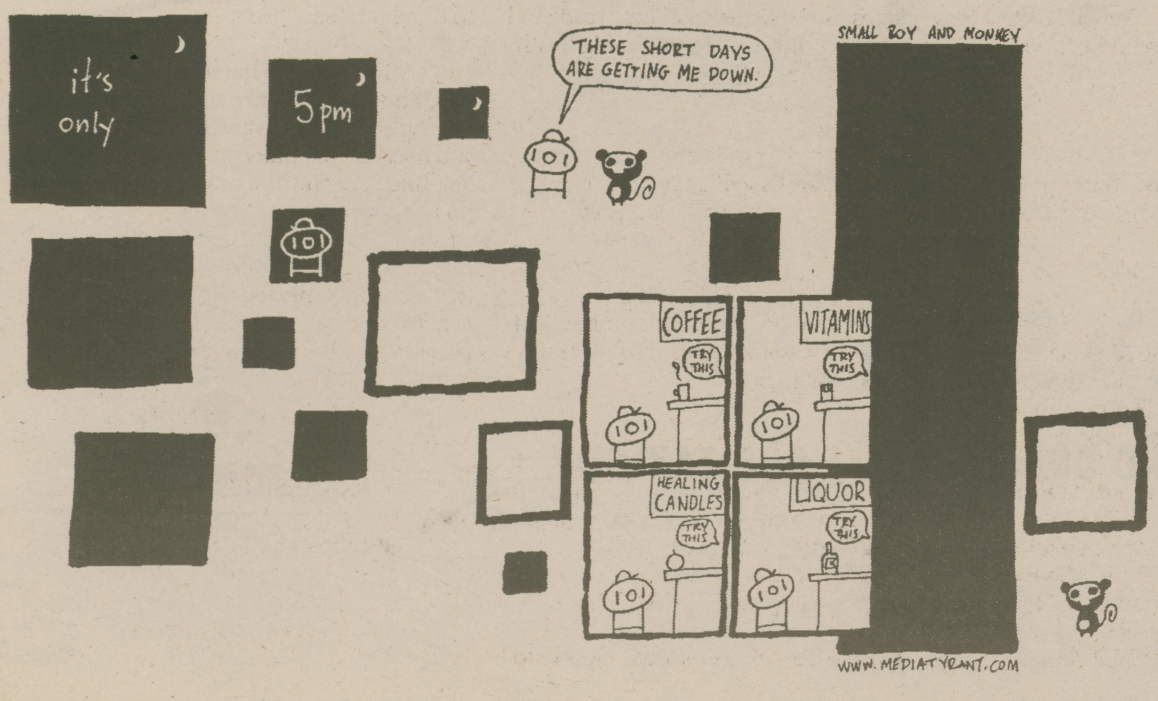
KOREA

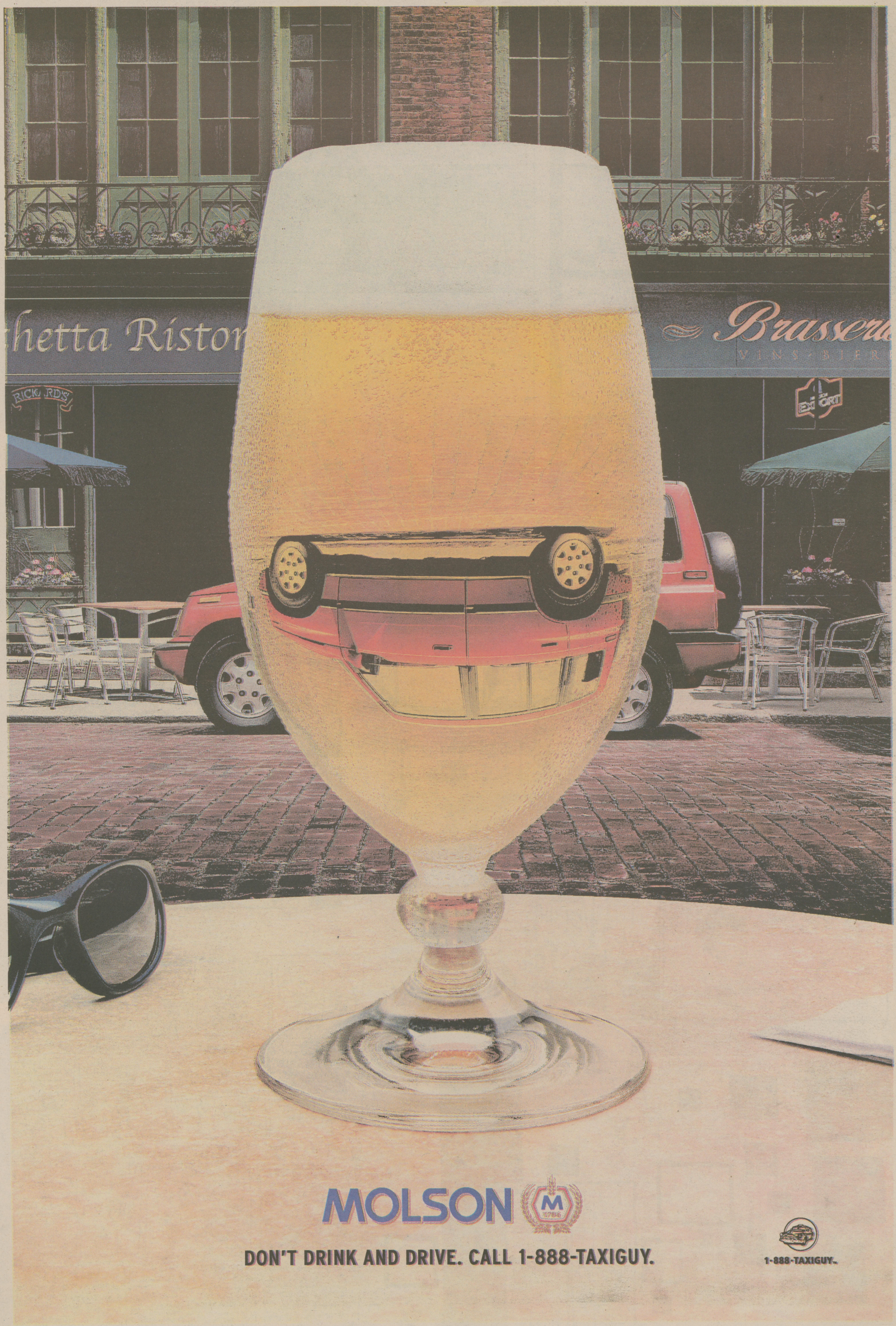
by Kathleen De Vere


YOU'VE BEEN IN A REAL MOOD LATELY, YOU KNOW THAT?
NOW I KNOW YOU'RE NOT THE 'HAPPY ALL THE TIME' TYPE OF GUY, BUT YOU BEING DEPRESSED ALL THE TIME STUFF IS CRAP!
YOU HAVE TO LEARN TO TAKE PLEASURE IN THE LITTLE THINGS IN LIFE! THERE'S PLENTY TO SMILE ABOUT IF YOU JUST NOTICE IT.
THIS DOG HERE IS CUTE! I BET PETTING IT WOULD IMPROVE YOUR DAY!
EXCUSE ME, CAN MY FRIEND PET YOUR DOG?
SURE!
CAFE
UM... HI DOG.
KILL!
GRRRRRRR!
AAAUGH!!!
QUINN LOOK! THE MUSEUM IS HAVING AN EXHIBIT - 60 YEARS OF NOVELTY CHAPEAUS! WOULDN'T THAT BE FUN TO GO TO? QUINN?
MUSE
AUG 12
CHAPEAU
AUG 12


COASTERS
DAM ITS FLAT.
YEAH. SASKATCHEWAN COMES TO MIND.
SUBMISSION!!
MEH. YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS...
SWEET WHO'S FIRST?
WELL-SEEING AS YOU LACK ALL THE COMPONENTS FOR "ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS" THE VOTE SUDDENLY SWINGS IN MY FAVOR.
YOUR AN ASS-YOU KNOW THAT RIGHT?- WHICH IS ANOTHER COMPONENT I LACK...
SPLOOSH!
GASP.
I'M TAKING UP A NEW SPORT. I HEAR BALLROOM DANCING IS IN.
LIG


Huh-huh. I love to think.
1984 George Orwell
For three days I read George Orwell's distopia: 1984.
That was frightening
It is a good thing that we are free from totalitarian rule.
Instead, we have a consumer market where we choose--
MALL
What we want to eat... How we want to dress... Who we hate...
I want 17th century Viking beef & Chinese tuna flavored pork &...
Huh--
Huh.
Flipping Iraqis & Afgan Scum!
We blow people up when we want to bring freedom...
We rally around our leaders in times of crisis...
We eat freedom fries...mmm
We have naps...
Zzzz
Get that guy to say democracy.
But he doesn't speak English.
You can't stop the free people!
COOL!
Extra-Liberty energy
We wave flags...
you might ask: what is all this "we" talk?
We are together because we fight a common cause.
We know we are all in this together.
HOW CAN YOU DESTROY A DREAM?
SOLIDARITY AGAINST TERROR
It is hard to see a lack of unity, which is why I am a brother to all Americans (regardless of deficiency).
Huh-Huh. Happpy.
Russell Ross ©Nov. 11 2004

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